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THE

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

WANTED—STILL MORE BREADTH.

A CLERGYMAN, whose letter was not intended for publication, writes to us in reference to the question of Disestablishment, on the importance of making some movement for ascertaining the convictions of the clergy in regard to that subject. He seems to think that they are to be approached, and ought to be approached, from our side of the controversy. He even suggests one mode in which he thinks it may be done. He certainly speaks with some authority, as having an intimate knowledge of the class to which he refers. We are not about to discuss his practical suggestions at this particular time, nor in these columns. Perhaps they may more properly be dealt with elsewhere. We have simply mentioned the fact of our having received such a letter, and described the purport of it, forasmuch as it has stirred afresh certain thoughts relating to the conduct of the Liberation movement which have, from time to time, seriously impressed themselves upon our mind.

Those of our readers who are of some years' standing will do us the justice, we think, to bear testimony to the efforts we have made to raise the disestablishment movement above even the highest sectarian level. It is not, it never has been, exclusively a question for the Nonconformist communities. It is, indeed, very difficult to argue and enforce it without letting it be seen that Nonconformists as such have an interest in it peculiarly their own. It is hardly wonderful, therefore, that, after many years' controversy carried on chiefly by them for the enfranchisement of Christian institutions from political influences and agencies, the object at which they aimed should appear to themselves, hardly less than to those who are ecclesiastically unconnected with them, to be identified with their own well-being and progress. Such, however, we need hardly say, is not the fact, or, to speak within compass, is not necessarily the fact. It is by no means certain that the Christian organisations outside of the Establishment would not largely suffer—in temporary and external prosperity at least—from the severance of the ties which bind the Church of England to the State. Let us not be misunderstood. We do not mean that they would lose, or would be likely to lose, an atom of that protection which they now receive at the hands of law. We do not believe that any one of the "bulwarks" of religious freedom would be thereby weakened in the least. We are sure that some of the social disadvantages by which Nonconformist bodies are now tried would be considerably diminished, and, in no great lapse of time, perhaps, would disappear. What we do mean is that, save where there exist exceptional and overwhelming objections, the religious institutions of the majority have an additional attraction for most people simply because they *are* those of the majority. We need impute no unworthy motives to account for the natural tendency of men and women, even in religion, to gravitate towards the largest bodies. All other things being equal, we most of us prefer to mingle our spiritual aspirations and sympathies with as wide a surface of society as possible. We like to worship where the number of our fellow-worshippers is greatest. It is a profound mistake to suppose that comparative isolation is pleasant to Dissenters. It is partly forced upon them, or, shall we say, *has been* forced upon them by State-favoured intolerance, or it is the result of traditional sentiments and feelings which have been kept alive by the natural action of a State Church. Remove all ground for complaint in regard to the inequality of treatment which they receive from the law, and, to a very wide extent indeed, you would remove also all objection to conform to the Episcopalian Church. The probability seems to be, therefore, that whenever disestablishment and disendowment shall have been carried into effect, a multitude of causes will become operative to swell the members of the already predominant Church.

This, however, is mere speculation. It may be so, or it may not, in the event. What we wish to point out is that Churchmen greatly err in taking for granted that what is done to change the relation of the Church of England to the law of the land is done mainly to gratify a narrow feeling of sectarian jealousy. We do not pretend that no such feeling exists on the side of Nonconformist bodies. As passion seldom exhibits itself without kindling passion, and as magnanimity almost invariably calls magnanimity into existence, so ecclesiastical exclusiveness and intolerance, more especially when it can avail itself of material forces in giving effect to its desires, naturally and almost inevitably breeds an exclusive spirit in return. But suppose the whole ground of quarrel between the law-favoured and the law-disfavoured portions of the community to be completely and once for all removed, there would be no theological or even ecclesiastical difference between the two parties potent enough to keep them permanently asunder. The convictions in which they are united are far deeper and more numerous than those in which they disagree; and the probability is that, but for the extraneous meddling of civil law in matters of religion, something like a National Church would become a spontaneous result of the strong religious affinities that exist between devout members of the Church of England and devout Nonconformists.

If this, or anything resembling this, be the actual relation of the two great parties one towards another, it ought undoubtedly to exercise a powerful influence upon the fashion in which the arduous work of disestablishment is set about by those who discern and recognise its religious importance. Involuntarily, perhaps, we have addressed ourselves too much to Dissenters, or too much *as* Dissenters to Churchmen. Peradventure it would be possible in future to say more about what is due to justice, to reason, to religion, and to the world, than about what is due to Nonconformists, as such. Something might be gained for our cause by putting ourselves out of sight. The fresh appeals which we shall have to make to our countrymen might gain something in effectiveness and success by being wholly purged from the sectarian spirit. In this respect, we believe the House of Commons to be a fair representative of the nation for which it legislates. The broader and more national the grounds upon which any question affecting religion is submitted to it, the more likely it is to gain its respect. Immediate conversions, followed by favourable votes, are not to be looked for; but it will be possible in this, as in other cases, by wise, generous, and high-minded efforts, to place even in the House of Commons the "little leaven which will leaven the whole lump."

THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK AND THE BENNETT JUDGMENT.

THE Archbishop of York, who, it is understood, had no inconsiderable hand in drawing up the Bennett judgment, has just been put on the defensive. The members of the Claughton Church Association have addressed a memorial to him in regard to the theological and ecclesiastical consequences flowing from the judgment. In common with many other Evangelical Churchmen, they look upon what has taken place with pain and alarm, and they wish to know, from the highest authority, whether what they suppose to be the meaning of the judgment is, or is not, really its meaning? This is very natural. Indeed, it is refreshing to see intelligent laymen addressing their bishops and asking their opinion on important matters. Such a thing is quite new in English ecclesiastical history, and may bring about something even still newer, and that is, the bishops addressing the laity and asking *their* opinions.

The members of the Claughton Church Association appear to have formed a very definite decision indeed respecting the consequences of the Bennett judgment. The consequences are thus put:—

1. That by consecration "Christ Himself" is present in His body and blood, together with His soul and divinity, in the consecrated elements, and "given to and received by all both in respect of those who eat and drink worthily and of those who eat and drink unworthily."

2 That "Christ Himself" so present is offered by the priest as a "propitiatory sacrifice," and that consequently that which was offered on the Cross and that which is offered on the altar are "one and the same," differing only in the manner of offering—the former being "bloody" and the other, as the Council of Trent teaches, "unbloody" ("*incruente*").

3. That divine adoration should be given to "Christ Himself" incarnate Deity, thus present in the consecrated elements.

Now, say the committee of this association, if these things can be deduced from the judgment, "the Church is in great danger, not only of losing vast numbers of her soundest members, but of forfeiting the confidence of the great majority of the people of Protestant England; and that, in fact, it will become indefensible." Some people have thought it to be indefensible for a long time: if the great majority of the people should arrive at the same conclusion, only one result is to be expected.

But are these things so or not? The bishop replies, and we are compelled to say that his reply is a clever one. Dr. Thomson is an adept in logic, and may be taken to be generally capable of twisting plain persons round his fingers. So he says, first of all, and, as a member of the Privy Council, quite correctly, that

that court has not pronounced on any propositions but those of Mr. Bennett, and it has not pronounced on those just quoted, which differ in terms from Mr. Bennett's. Here is a good fencing answer; but still, it not being very likely to give general satisfaction, the archbishop proceeds to say that this is not the only answer. He repeats the first proposition submitted to him, and says that the subject of the communion of the wicked was really excluded from the recent judgment, and, therefore, that the court has not pronounced that proposition to be lawful. At the same time, the archbishop wholly evades the most important half of that proposition, that is, as to the efficacy of "consecration." We suppose that the members of the Claughton Church Association will have observed this, and have taken note accordingly.

Then, as to the second proposition—the mode of the presence of the Saviour in the Eucharist. The archbishop quotes the judgment itself upon this point, as a conclusive reply:—

It is not lawful for a clergyman to teach that the sacrifice or offering of Christ upon the Cross, or the redemption, propitiation, or satisfaction wrought by it, is or can be repeated in the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, nor that in that ordinance there is or can be any sacrifice or offering of Christ which is efficacious in the sense in which Christ's death is efficacious to procure the remission of the guilt or punishment of sins.

This, of course, is also not a complete answer. If Mr. Bennett could lawfully say, upon this subject, what he did say, the declaration of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council goes for very little.

As to the third proposition, Dr. Thomson declares that the question as it stands has not been determined in the judgment. This is how the logical archbishop explains the matter:—

Mr. Bennett *appears* to have said that he adored, and taught his people to adore, Christ present in the Sacrament under the form of bread and wine. The judgment *appears* to draw a distinction between the statement of a fact, that the respondent adores, and the teaching that adoration is due. It observes that the fact that Mr. Bennett performs acts of adoration (if he does so) could be dealt with in another way. Thus the question you put was not *in its exact form* before the court. That part of the judgment *seems* less decided in its tone than the rest, and admits that there were "doubts and diversion of opinions" in the court itself.

Must not this language be very satisfactory to the distressed laymen who go to their "chief pastor" in avowed "pain" and "trouble" for a resolution of their difficulty?

The archbishop, however, does not leave the matter here. He goes on to observe that the memorialists seem to be perplexed and fearful as to what the Committee of the Privy Council may in future decide, and he candidly expresses his opinion that the Church is not indebted to any decisions. What he knows is, that "ever since the case of 'Essays and Reviews' it has been known that the Courts were likely to take the view most favourable to the accused in such cases, and that the 'Gorham' case taught people that it would construe the Articles and Formularies 'in the widest sense.'" The moral of which is that it is of no use prosecuting anyone for heresy before the Privy Council Committee, for the defendant is sure to escape. As the archbishop is one of the most influential members of that committee, his opinion on such a question is entitled to all the weight of his high authority.

Now, we do not know what the members of the Claughton Church Association think of this reply, but it seems to us that they knew just as much as they know now, before they wrote to the archbishop. They have got nothing out of his grace—perhaps less than nothing. But there is something in the last sentence of this remarkable letter. It runs: "Wishing for you, sir, and for the other memorialists, the blessings of the Divine guidance," &c., as much as to say, "You will get no guidance from *me*"! So the Claughton memorialists are delivered over to the wisdom and mercy of the Almighty.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

Church measures have not particularly prospered in the present Parliament. Amongst those the fate of which we have not yet chronicled the Union of Benefices Amendment Act comes first. It has been withdrawn, and, after what has been said, will probably not be re-introduced to Parliament without some allowance for the rights of city parishioners. The Ecclesiastical Courts Bill has also dropped. Here also a bill failed solely from the want of recognition of the rights of the laity. In Lord Shaftesbury's original measure there was a fair concession to the rights of the laity, as persons who are preached to every Sunday, and who, in one way or another, have certainly to pay for the preaching. The bishops, of course, could not dream of recognising such rights, and so the laity were altogether ignored. Then Lord Shaftesbury intr uced a second measure dealing with this aspect of the question alone, but that was very decisively rejected. As for what was left of the old bill, it was worth nothing, even for Church purposes, and still less for national purposes. We agree with the *Record* that it had been "metamorphosed into a bishops' bill," in which, of course, everything was to be handed over to that order of the Established clergy. "More power for the bishops" was the principle that guided the amendments made in the Upper House. But the House of Commons could not stand it, and so, last Wednesday, we heard the last of this measure for the present session. Some other measures of a small administrative character have passed, but, with the exception of the Seats Bill, with no opposition. *That* bill, which limits the rights of Churchmen to occupy seats in the parish churches, the Establishment is welcome to. It has really passed, however, and Churchmen will have to put up with it.

Then, there is the Baptismal Fees Bill, which demands a separate notice. There has been, and still is, a theory that clergymen of the Establishment, in consequence of their being servants of the State, administer what are termed the offices of the Christian religion without extra pay. The fact is that, excepting Roman Catholic priests, they are the only officers of Christian congregations who either expect or demand pay. No Protestant Nonconformist minister dreams of charging either for baptisms, marriages, or burials, and very few would accept payment for them. The clergy of "the Poor Man's Church," are exclusive in this respect, and, as has been said, levy toll for their services for everything that they do from the cradle to the grave. The idea of levying fees for baptism was, however, considered to be repugnant, even in the earliest ages of the Church after Constantine, but it has not been repugnant to the clergy of the Establishment. A bill was therefore introduced by the Bishop of Winchester, early this session, into the House of Lords, for abolishing all such fees, and the bill has now passed into an act. It is true that is an interference of a "secular legislature" with a spiritual office, but the abuses of the spiritual office had become too patent, So Mr. Phillimore writes to the *Guardian* as follows:—

It is very desirable *in the spiritual interests of the poor* that the provisions of the bill as to baptismal fees, brought in by the Bishop of Winchester, which has just past into law, should be known as widely as possible. This act, then, makes it for the future unlawful, even on pretence of ancient custom, for any one to demand a fee for baptizing or for registering a baptism. Any one, therefore, so demanding will be guilty of a distinct offence and punishable accordingly.

If the "spiritual interests" of the poor are so involved in this question, how is it that the Established clergy, who exist, or are supposed to exist, solely for the sake of attending to those interests, have hitherto opposed those interests? And for what? For "fees"? Is it possible! Yet, here is the Act of Parliament which infers more than a possibility.

On the whole, it will be seen, and in regard to other matters besides this, that the extreme High Church party has not got along very well. There are other matters in which public opinion has pretty decisively expressed itself. The other day there was an action by a curate at Norwood against Mr. Kempe, the incumbent of St. James's, Piccadilly, for an alleged libel in respect of the curate's marrying a gentleman and a divorcée. Mr. Kempe used hard words on this occasion, but what was the use? Mr. Kempe will have nothing to do with the marriage of divorcées, but the State has decided that they may be married, and Mr. Kempe and all other clergymen will have to obey the State or take the consequences, and we never knew a beneficed clergyman yet take the consequences of disobedience. Who wants to see what is thought and said upon this particular question may read the *Daily News* and *Daily Telegraph* of yesterday. Even the *Telegraph*, that devoted organ of the Establishment, cannot get over the facts of the case, and submits that, for the privileges they enjoy, the clergy of the Establishment have surrendered their liberty of action. It is wonderful, when one recollects, how often clergymen have been going to secede who never do secede. The Gorham judgment, the "Essays and Reviews" judgment, the Bennett judgment—what threats we had about them all! And, yet, there are the threateners still in the enjoyment of their quiet country parsonages.

Now we have another and a very distinct threat. The Rev. Malcolm McColl writes to the *Guardian* as follows,—

My determination, and that of many like me, to retire from our ministerial positions, is limited to two contingencies — the excision of the "Damnatory Clauses," or the use of the creed being made optional. If the "Damnatory Clauses" are abolished, I shall feel that the Church of England has forbidden me to preach, in its integrity, the Gospel, of which the "Damnatory Clauses" are an essential part; and I shall obey. If the Church of England decrees, in answer to objectors, that the use of the creed shall be optional, I shall feel that the Church of England has decreed that the truth of the Gospel is a matter of individual opinion; and I shall leave those who can to preach such a doctrine. I cannot.

Never mind! Mr. McColl, whatever happens, will be a beneficed clergyman for a few years yet. He believes what he says, and is thinking upon his martyrdom already, but he will enjoy it only in imagination. If the time should come when his promise may seem to require fulfilment he may take advice of the Archbishop of York and frame a logical excuse for not performing it.

THE USELESS CITY CHURCHES.

Among the bills withdrawn last week was the Union of Benefices Act Amendment Bill, brought in by the Bishop of London and carried through the House of Lords, and of which Mr. Walpole took charge in the House of Commons.

It proposed to transfer to other parts of the metropolis the endowments of city parishes, and the value of the materials and sites of the churches, and, as some of the sites have already sold for 25*l.* per square foot, the property which it would virtually have placed at the disposal of the bishop would have been of immense value.

All this property it was intended to appropriate for the benefit of "the Church," without regard to the local burdens of the parishes to be deprived of their churches, clergy, and endowments. Moreover, whereas on the rebuilding of London after the fire the sites of the churches were thrown into the public way, whenever the streets required widening, "the Church" now insists that the parishioners shall pay a high price for every yard of land required for this purpose, although it is already their own property!

It is a fact of some interest, as throwing a light on the allegation that all that the Church of England possesses is the result of private liberality, that several of the City churches have been built out of the proceeds of the coal tax. And another fact, equally relevant to this bill, is this, that in 1804 a local Act (44 Geo. 3, c. 89) was passed, which recited that, owing to the decrease in the value of money, the enhanced price of all the necessaries of life, and other circumstances, the maintenance provided for the City clergy by the 22 & 23 of Chas. 2., c. 15, was greatly insufficient for their support and largely increased the "annual tithes, or sums of money," payable in lieu of tithes to the City clergy.

The bishop's bill would have kept up the increased tithes after the clergy had been removed, only the amount would have been paid to clergymen in other parts of the metropolis, who, no doubt, would presently have declared, at Church defence meetings, that their incomes had been secured to them by the liberality of pious ancestors!

It is not surprising that even so Conservative a body as the Corporation of London should have opposed so impudent an attempt at "confiscation" and "spoliation;" and as the attempt will probably be renewed early next session, we hope that the public, and especially the citizens of London, will acquaint themselves with the merits of the question, that they may be able to offer to it an uncompromising opposition.

THE ENDOWED SCHOOLS COMMISSIONERS AND THE LORDS.

(From the *Freeman*.)

The addresses voted by the House of Lords against three of the schemes issued by the Endowed Schools Commissioners form a singular episode in the history of that most unfortunate body. It will be remembered that one of the leading characteristics of the proposals first promulgated by them was the introduction of a strong ecclesiastical element into the governing bodies of the endowments dealt with. In nearly every case the vicar or rector of the parish was constituted an *ex officio* governor of the school; clergymen of the Church of England were also placed among the co-optative governors, and not a few of the so-called representative governors were to be elected by deans and chapters or other equally sectarian bodies. The commissioners even took the trouble to issue a memorandum defending the legality of the appointment of ecclesiastical corporations or persons to be *ex officio* governors of educational endowments, in which they stated, among other grounds for selecting the parson of the parish for this office, the remarkable reason that "he is the legal representative of the Church and its appurtenances, and in these respects he is bound to perform, and does perform, duties for all the parishioners whether they attend his ordinary ministrations or not." Surely, if ever men deserved to stand well with the bishops and clergy of the

Established Church these Endowed Schools Commissioners did. By their persistent attempts to carry out their views in this respect they roused the opposition of the Dissenters; the legality of the appointment of *ex officio* clerical trustees was questioned, and ultimately a case was submitted to the law officers of the Crown. In the opinion of these eminent persons the course taken by the commissioners was erroneous; since it was illegal to appoint ecclesiastical officers as *ex officio* governors. As a necessary consequence, the schemes not already sanctioned by Parliament were remodelled and shorn of much of the sectarian element which the commissioners regarded with such fond affection. The process must have cost them many a pang, but the unkindest cut of all was yet to come. Last Friday the Bishop of Bangor moved the House of Lords to address Her Majesty against the scheme for the management of a Welsh charity, on the ground that the bishop was not constituted an *ex officio* governor. The arguments of the commissioners in favour of ecclesiastical *ex officio* governors were turned against themselves. Lord Salisbury, in particular, in supporting the motion, almost adopted the language of the memorandum to which we have referred; but, with his usual moderation and grace of language, described the question raised as to the illegality of the appointment of clerical *ex officio* governors as "*a series* of Dissenting raids on the Church of England." What could Lord Lyttelton say in reply? He was obviously in a strait betwixt two. He could scarcely be expected to recant his published opinion, yet he was bound to say something in support of the scheme which was impugned. He made, as might have been expected, a somewhat feeble fight. The motion was carried, and two other addresses were resolved upon against the schemes promulgated for the schools at Felstead and Tideswell. The practical result is that the commissioners have been told by the Lords to take their schemes back and try and do better next time. Doing better in this case means acting illegally, for one of the speakers intimated that the commissioners ought, in spite of the opinion of the law officers, to insert the clerical *ex officio* governors, and leave some one (presumably a cantankerous Dissenter) to raise the question of the legality of the appointment in a court of law. The commissioners are, in fact, in this pleasing dilemma —they must either do what they know to be illegal, or they must submit to have their schemes, prepared at great cost of time and money, converted into mere waste paper by the action of the Upper House. In the case of one of the schemes thus defeated we do not suppose much regret need be entertained. The constitution for Felstead School, which vests the appointment of the representative governors in the county M.P.s for Essex, and nominates three clergymen among the co-optative governors, has excited both ridicule and indignation, and must surely, when it appears in a revised form, undergo some amendment. But it is serious matter for consideration whether the labour and expense involved in settling and publishing schemes ought to be practically rendered useless at the arbitrary will of the Upper House, led by members of the bench of bishops.

The resolution to which we have referred seems at first sight sadly unkind and ungrateful conduct on the part of the bishops and their followers, to commissioners who have done their best to promote the interests of the Church. It may be, however, that if we knew the whole of the secret history of the matter, we might obtain a new light on the meaning of the motion. Of course we have no information beyond what is available to the public; but the hint thrown out by Lord Lyttelton, that if the construction of the clauses in question was not dealt with judicially, he trusted "that Parliament would take the question in hand next session, and would then give intelligible directions as to what the Endowed Schools Commissioners should do," would appear to point at an intention to prepare the way for a short declaratory measure enabling the commissioners to carry out their avowed preference as to the appointment of clerical *ex officio* trustees. We hope the Dissenting representatives will keep their eyes open next session, and not allow such a bill to be hurried through unobserved in the small hours of the morning.

ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS IN GERMANY AND AUSTRIA.

The *Neue Freie Presse* states that the Old Catholics are again to hold a congress on the 20th, 21st, and 22nd of September, this time in Cologne. The Prussian Government supports their efforts in every way.

A correspondent of the *Times* concludes a long descriptive account of the visit of the Jansenist Archbishop of Utrecht to Bavaria as follows:—"Thus several thousand German people have now not only been shaken loose from faith in an 'infallible' Pope, as well as from confidence in a good deal more of Ultramontane teaching, but have visibly realised that they can have a bishop, and enjoy all the functions the Church allots to him 'by the grace of God,' without depending on that of Rome. A powerful spell has been effectually broken, an old and strong link snapped, and they have learnt that they can be in full Church communion while yet freed from what Herr von Wolf so graphically called the '*esel tritt*' of blind following of Papal guidance. Such a decided step forward cannot fail to be followed by further consequences. Although these good men have not thus far felt their way to any changes in their services, other than the substitution of Old Catholic for Roman pastors and teaching, it is cheering to know that they look forward to the day when their national tongue shall be restored for worship and other important practical points of reformation and return to purer primitive Catholicism follow. This occasion, too, has awakened new thoughts of a wider sympathy with other portions of the Church long banned and thrust out by Rome, as the Archbishop of Utrecht, in his pastoral, so feelingly says of his own branch. Such feelings may, under God's blessing, prove the forerunners of some attempts to come to better mutual understanding with others long separated, and thus of knitting closer relations between all who claim to be 'Old Catholics'—all who take their stand on the Bible and the Primitive Church."

The *Cologne Gazette* says that the question to be discussed by the superiors of the Order of the Jesuits, convoked to a conference at Rome by the General of the Order, relates to the project of changing the names and dress of the Jesuits expelled from Prussia and making as many as possible enter into orders still suffered there. The Vienna correspondent of the *Eastern Budget*, writing on July 28, says:—"Some newspapers here have given circulation to a totally unfounded report that Count Andrassy proposes to take similar measures against the Jesuits in Austria to those adopted by Prince Bismarck against the society in Germany. Count Andrassy, though a Catholic, has no sympathy for the Jesuits; but his political position in the matter is entirely different from that of the German Chancellor. In Austria the adoption of measures of this kind would be a question of internal policy, in which Count Andrassy, as Foreign Minister for the whole empire, could not properly interfere, the matter being for the consideration of the Austrian and Hungarian Ministers of 'Cultus.' In Hungary, where a small minority only of the population are Catholic—the Maygars and Slovaks being mostly Protestants, and the Roumans, Ruthenians, and Servians belonging to the Greek Church—the Jesuits have never possessed any considerable influence. There is, therefore, no necessity for proceeding against them, especially as in Hungary religious questions are comparatively unimportant. In Cisleithania, however, such questions are daily becoming more pressing, and the present Ministry is busily engaged in preparing a solution of them, which might be compatible both with modern ideas and the enjoyment of equal rights by the members of the different religions. The concordat which granted special privileges to the Roman Catholic Church has been abolished, but it is now necessary to determine by legislation what is to be the extent of the powers of that Church, taking into consideration the spread of enlightenment among the people, consequent upon the improvements effected of late years in the national schools. Such measures as those taken in Germany against the Jesuits would in Austria be impossible, as they could not be adopted without altering the constitution. So long as the Jesuits do not break the law, they cannot be prosecuted by the Government, for the constitution does not forbid their existence as a religious society. And, indeed, the anti-infallibility movement in Austria is in itself so powerful that no action on the part of the Government is required to check the influence of the clergy on the masses. Now that no one is compelled to submit to priestly influence, people's minds are daily becoming more and more emancipated from it."

THE OPENING OF MUSEUMS ON SUNDAY.—A deputation, consisting chiefly of members of the Working Men's Lord's Day Rest Association, waited upon Mr. Forster to present a memorial against the opening of the Bethnal-green Museum and similar institutions on Sunday. The deputation was introduced by Mr. E. Baines, M.P., who said the matter was looked upon as of great importance, not only as regarded the immediate neighbourhood, but with regard to the principle involved. They believed that if museums were opened other institutions would follow, and it would give a sanction to the violation of the Lord's day which would be very dangerous. Mr. Forster, in reply, said all he could do was to refer the deputation to the statement he made in the House of Commons after a conference in the Cabinet, which was to the effect that they were not prepared to make the alteration which the deputation feared. Unless they were of opinion that there was a decided feeling in favour of the opening, they should not make the alteration. Mr. Forster acknowledged that he did not see quite so clearly as the deputation the arguments which had been used, and indeed he thought there was one argument in favour of it, which was, that the opening of these institutions would be a desirable and useful competition with the public-house. He acknowledged, however that there would be some danger in the course, and he could assure them that nothing would be done either by the Cabinet or by the Government without due consideration.

THE CHURCH DEFENCE ASSOCIATION AND MR. MIALL'S MOTION.—At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Church Defence Institution held on July 30, H. Cecil Raikes, Esq., M.P., in the chair, the following resolution, proposed by the chairman, and seconded by T. Collins, Esq., M.P., was carried unanimously:—"That this committee, before separating for the recess, feel it a suitable opportunity for congratulating the members of the Church Defence Institution, and all other friends of the National Church, upon the uniform failure of the attacks directed against the Church in Parliament during the past session. The growing disinclination of the Houses of Parliament to entertain measures injurious to the Church has been most clearly shown on various occasions, and more especially in the rejection of the Burials Bill, the inability of the secularist party to modify the Elementary Education Act of 1870, and the overwhelming majority against Mr. Miall's motion. It must, however, be remembered that these proposals will certainly be reintroduced next session, and that Mr. Miall has already given notice of a resolution more distinctly hostile to the Church of England than any which he has previously brought forward. Renewed efforts will be necessary to combat these attempts, but the strong feeling which the Church Defence Institution has been instrumental in raising against such projects, will, it is hoped, be as conspicuous in future sessions as in this."

THE CAUSES OF DISSENT.—This was one of the subjects touched upon at a conference at Penrith in connection with the Bishop of Carlisle's visitation tour. The Rev. S. J. Butler, speaking from the High Church point of view, felt bound to say that many of his brother clergy fraternised with Dissent; and the consequence was that many of their people saw little difference between Church and Dissent. The Rev. G. C. Hodgson attributed the spread of Dissent to totally different causes. He himself had had an experience of something like twenty years in this diocese as a minister of the Church of England, and he had heard the people assign causes quite different from those given by Mr. Butler. (Hear, hear.) He denied that Dissent was spreading everywhere, as Mr. Butler had said, and asserted that Church teaching and Church influence were on the increase in the large majority of parishes. He wished also to state, what he knew to be a fact, that a great many persons who were made Dissenters remained Dissenters because they saw that in the Church of England they were not putting out those whose Romanising tendencies were manifest. (Applause.) Allusion had been made to the clergy fraternising with the Dissenters, and he for one would plead guilty to the charge of having associated with the Dissenters upon the British and Foreign Bible Society's platform—(applause)—where, also, he added, archbishops and other dignitaries of the Church had been before him, and where the clergy of the Church of England had been invited to take a prominent and a proper place. Various other topics were discussed.

THE REV. JAMES MARTINEAU.—A testimonial, consisting of five thousand guineas and two pieces of inscribed plate, has been presented to the Rev. James Martineau by a large number of his English friends and admirers, "in grateful acknowledgment of his services in the maintenance of spiritual freedom, in the promotion of Christian truth, and in the inculcation of that pure morality which is the foundation of private and public virtue, and the safeguard of national liberty." In a letter, accepting the handsome gift, Mr. Martineau says, "Far from having any claim to plead, I am conscious that, in the account of services exchanged, I am debtor to the world, and not the world to me; and am half ashamed to have escaped so many of the privations on which I reckoned when I quitted a secular profession for a Christian ministry. Whoever dedicates himself to bear witness of Divine things is the least consistent of men if he does not lay his account for a modest scale of outward life and a frequent conflict with resisting interests and opinions. During a term of more than forty years changes of conviction cannot fail to affect the mind of every religious teacher, and of the later generation into which he lives. In their course, these changes bring their critical and painful moments, often involving alienated looks and the severance of precious ties. In remembering such crises, I thank God that my lot has been cast among a generous people, heartily reverent of freedom and trustful of truth, so that the inevitable struggles of opinion have occasioned me no broken friendship and left me no bitter thought; and, as I prepare for my last march of duty, I find myself moving step by step with those who are just entering the field. I well knew that this is due, not to anything in my own work, but simply in the courses of the world, which have given a conservative aspect to teachings which had once a revolutionary look, and have turned into acceptable allies many who were regarded as the free lances of an earlier time. I can take no credit to myself for having outlived the fears and prejudices of the last generation."

Religious and Denominational News.

THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

The Methodist Conference proper (at which only ministers can sit) was formally opened on Wednesday. About 750 ministers attended. The venerable "Father Jackson," who entered the ministry in 1804, was present, and the retiring President (Dr. James) wished all to greet him in the name of the Conference. All the ministers at once arose, and the scene was affecting. Though Mr. Jackson is nearly ninety years of age, there is a ring of hearty vigour in his tones, and he was distinctly audible. He alluded to the fact that sixty-eight years ago he was called to the ministry in City-road Chapel. He had come to "see the Conference for the last time." His concluding remarks were very solemn. It did him good to see that company of Methodist preachers, and he prayed that his spirit might be

with theirs in the "better world." The Secretary then announced that during the year nine vacancies had occurred in the "Legal Hundred," the nominal governing power in Methodism (all ministers of a certain standing in the body having the right to vote on matters under consideration). The vacancies were supplied alternately by nomination and seniority. Those elected by nomination briefly acknowledged the honour conferred on them. The Conference then proceeded to the election of the President for the forthcoming year. The result was that the Rev. Luke H. Wiseman, M.A., was elected by 356 votes. The election of the secretary followed immediately. The honour fell upon the Rev. George T. Perks, M.A., 238 votes being recorded in his favour. The ex-President then invited the newly-elected President to the chair with feeling words of congratulation. He then handed to him the Conference seal, and the Bible used by Mr. Wesley in field-preaching. The President acknowledged the vote briefly and with simplicity, saying he had no inaugural address to deliver. The secretary acknowledged the vote. An open session of Conference was held in the evening, at which the addresses of the Irish and Canadian Conferences were read, and the state of Methodist work in Ireland, Canada, and France was described by the Revs. Messrs. Applebee, of Dublin, J. P. Cooke, of Nismes, and the Rev. L. H. Wiseman, as representative of the Canadian Conference. Mr. Wiseman has recently returned from Canada, which he has visited for the purpose of representing English Methodism at the Canadian Conference. The meeting was crowded and enthusiastic.

The Conference resumed on Thursday morning. A memorial was presented, requesting that strong efforts should be put forth towards having the Contagious Diseases Acts repealed. Referring to the petitions signed by immoral women at Windsor, Colchester, and other places, which have been presented to Parliament, the memorial said, "These are the first instances in English history where prostitutes have addressed Parliament avowedly as members of a recognised calling, and have absolutely been brought forward to advise the House of Commons as to what is good for the country at large." The question was discussed, the speakers being Dr. James, Dr. Rule, Dr. Osborn, Dr. Stamp, Dr. Jobson, Dr. Rigg, Mr. Arthur, Mr. Jenkins, and others, all of whom in the strongest terms condemned the Acts. It was decided unanimously that a standing committee should be appointed to take action in the matter whenever required, that a memorial to the Government should be drawn up and signed, and that permission should be sought for a small deputation to wait on the Prime Minister, and express to him the mind of the conference on the matter. The general opinion seemed to be that the entire power and influence of Methodism should be brought to bear on the subject, and that they should never relax their efforts till the acts were repealed. It having been stated that perhaps the Prime Minister would receive the deputation, Dr. Rigg said that the Government were not, as a Government, pledged against their view. There was public opinion behind the abettors of these acts. They must let the Prime Minister understand this other public opinion, with its weight, importance, and reasons. There was ground to believe that the Cabinet was divided on the question. Let them strengthen the hands of the members of the Government who were opposed to the acts, and bring all possible influences, intellectual and moral, to bear on both sides of the House. He was certain that ninety-nine out of every 100 in the Conference would sign the petition.

On Friday Mr. Farrar proposed that a letter should be sent, on behalf of the Conference, to Her Majesty, congratulating her on the recovery of the Prince of Wales. "Loyal Methodism" was evidenced by the ministers rising in a body, and the vote was passed standing. The obituaries of the ministers who have died during the year were read by the secretary, these being followed, in many cases, by the oral testimony of ministers most conversant with the character and work of the deceased. The obituary record included several men of distinction, such as Dr. Dixon, Dr. Hoole, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Vasey, and others. Eloquent tributes were paid to their memories by Dr. Osborn, Mr. Arthur, Mr. Prest, and many more ministers. Among the obituaries read was that of a preacher, once a slave, who had obtained his freedom in Bermuda. Various committees were appointed to consider cases presented for the consideration of the Conference, and questions as to character, &c., occupied the attention of the Conference to its close. A letter, during the sitting, was read from the Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association, offering the members of the Conference the use of their reading-rooms, &c., which was directed to be suitably acknowledged. For several years past the friends of temperance among the Wesleyans have arranged for a demonstration in favour of their principles, which have made great progress in the denomination. The largest of these was held last year in the Free-trade Hall, Manchester. On Thursday night a meeting was held at the Metropolitan Tabernacle. The great hall was quite filled. Mr. Nicholas Downing, of Penzance, took the chair. After hymns and prayer, the Chairman said the time had come when the Church of Christ must grapple with the greatest evil of the age—the evil of intemperance. Another object of the meeting was to impress on the Methodist Church in particular, and on all Churches in general, the importance of the subject, and by their means and their influence with the population throughout the land so to influence the people and the Legislature that his evil might be abated. It was a matter of the highest congratulation that the Christian Churches were doing their duty in respect of this question of the liquor traffic—that the time had arrived when they could say that the cause of temperance was the cause of virtue, was the cause of morality, and, he might almost say, of religion itself. (Cheers.) He did not mean to say that religion was the same as temperance, but he would say that where there was no temperance there was no religion. (Loud cheers.) The speaker then quoted the liquor statistics contained in the report of Mr. L. Levi to Mr. Bass, and said that the quantity of liquor drunk led to poverty, misery, woe, and sin. It brought nothing to the exchequer, for it led to misery and workhouses, to madness and lunatic asylums, to crime and poisons, and every form of crime, wretchedness and debasement. (Cheers.) The meeting was thenaddressed by the Rev. G. W. Olver, B.A., the Rev. Thos. Llewellyn, Rev. H. P. Hughes, Rev. D. Sanderson, Rev. R. Hardy, Rev. J. Shrewsbury, Rev. A. A. Garrett, Rev. T. B. Stephenson, and Rev. J. James.

On Saturday, the memorial to the Prime Minister (agreed to be prepared unanimously on Thursday) against the Contagious Diseases Acts was read, and its acceptance moved by Dr. Osborn. The memorial is to be signed by all the ministers. The acceptance of the memorial was seconded by the secretary, and the feeling expressed the acts by the Methodists was very strong. A resolution was adopted expressing the earnest sympathy of the Conference with the policy of Prince Bismarck in his attempts to put down the Jesuits in Germany, the policy of that statesmen being regarded as one of the deepest importance to Europe, and, indeed, to Protestantism throughout the world. Dr. Osborn proposed, Mr. Arthur seconded, and Mr. Brailsford supported the resolution. Mr. Arthur said that it was a happy thing that at a time when Romanism had boasted that England was going over to Popery, and when the Roman Catholic hierarchy said they had no need to conduct a controversy in their defence in England—for others not professedly of their communion did that for them—it was a happy thing that, in such a crisis, there had arisen in Germany the present reaction against Romanism. In England, as elsewhere, Popery sought to re-establish itself by means of political power, and it be well if they, as Methodists, were found associated with every influence taking the broad and scriptural ground that religion should not be made an instrument of political organisation, as it had been by the Jesuits. The question of character occupied the remainder of the sitting. A Conference love-feast was held in the evening.

A very interesting feature in connection with the Conference week has been the giving of a "garden party," by Mr. James S. Budgett, of Earling Park, a son of the late Mr. Budgett, of Bristol, whom the Rev. William Arthur has immortalised in his well-known book, "The Successful Merchant." About one hundred and fifty Wesleyan ministers were invited, together with clergymen and laymen of other denominations. Among those present were the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown; the Rev. S. Minton; Dr. Davis, of the Religious Tract Society; Dr. Bergne, of the Bible Society; Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., Mr. Charles Reed, M.P., and Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P. Among the Methodist ministers was the venerable "Father Jackson." A few brief addresses were given, but the time was chiefly spent in social intercourse. Music was provided in the grounds, and every effort was made to ensure the happiness of the numerous guests.

On Sunday, throughout London, in the various Methodist chapels services were held in connection with the Conference. In the evening, at City-road Chapel, the new-elected President, the Rev. Luke H. Wiseman, M.A., preached from Matthew ix. 32—"As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil," &c. In the course of his sermon the preacher characterised with great force the various kinds of mental and spiritual dumbness, and spoke powerfully of the "dumbness" to be found, he feared in many of the pulpits of Christendom. His closing appeals and earnest desire that "old England" should awaken to vigorous spiritual life evoked in the body of the chapel many old Methodist responses. The chapel was densely crowded, and the platform behind the preacher was filled with many of the most noted preachers in Methodism.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCHES.

On Wednesday morning the annual assembly of the United Methodist Free Churches commenced in Milk-street Chapel, Bristol. There was a large number of representatives from the various circuits present, and the president for the past year, the Rev. E. Boaden, of Haslington, presided. The Rev. S. S. Barton, of Manchester, congratulated the retiring president on the ability with which he had discharged the duties of his office, and proposed that the Rev. J. S. Withington be president of the assembly for the ensuing year. The Rev. J. Mather, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, proposed the election of the Rev. J. Adcock, of Bradford, and the Rev. J. Myers, of Leeds, proposed the election of the Rev. Joseph Garside, corresponding secretary. On a ballot being taken, the following votes were recorded:—For the Rev. J. Garside, 28; for the Rev. J. Adcock, 40; for the Rev. J. S. Withington, 85. The Rev. J. S. Withington was declared to be elected, and was inducted into the presidential chair by the retiring president, who congratulated him upon his election. The President-Elect acknowledged the honour which had been conferred upon him, and thanked his brethren for the confidence they had placed in him. In the course of his speech he said that just in proportion as they elevated the Saviour in their hearts and in their lives they would be a united, a peaceful, and prosperous community, but only in that proportion. He rejoiced very much that the policy of their church so exactly agreed with the advancing policy of the nation. One would almost suppose that by a superhuman sagacity the founders of their denomination had anticipated the policy of this and of that form of Government that Her Majesty might call into power in this realm. (Hear, hear.) They had in their time seen marvellous strides. The separation of Church and State had been considered—(Hear, hear)—and they had seen in Ireland that union severed, and severed for ever. (Hear, hear.) They had seen the churches of the sister island rising to an equal platform, so that there was no such person in Ireland as a Nonconformist, because there was no such person as a Conformist. He rejoiced that there was a growing disposition and desire to understand the polity of the Free Churches on the part of members of other churches, and on the part of other persons not directly identified with the Christian Church. They must see from the position their Church had attained that there must be a life, a power, and a spirituality in their midst that ought to commend them at least to the consideration of others. He feared that some who were in authority in the State did not understand, not merely the requirements, but the rights of Nonconformists. (Applause.) They had recently decided that they should not be allowed to bury themselves. (Cheers and laughter.) Let them, however, be thankful for what they had won, but do not let them be satisfied. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. J. Adcock was elected connexional secretary, and after the appointment of sub-secretaries and committees, the assembly adjourned.

On reassembling the newly-erected President took the chair, and the Connexional Secretary read the programme of the business to be transacted, and moved that it be printed, and copies of it be distributed amongst the representatives. This was also adopted. It was then proposed and seconded that the best thanks of the assembly be presented to the Rev. E. Boaden, the ex-president, for the faithful, courteous, and able manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office for the past year. The resolution was carried by acclamation. The Rev. J. Myers, of Leeds, moved a vote of thanks to the Rev. J. S. Withington for the diligence and fidelity with which he had discharged the duties of connexional secretary for the past year. The President expressed his acknowledgments for the vote, and said he had endeavoured throughout the year faithfully to discharge the duties of the office. The Rev. C. New, interpreter to the Livingstone Search Expedition, was received with loud and long-continued applause, the whole assembly rising. He assured them that it was with profound satisfaction that he met them. Ten years ago he sat in that assembly, and the Foreign Mission Secretary applied on that occasion for him as a missionary for East Africa. He returned home to Cornwall, and after earnest prayer he placed himself in the hands of the committee, and on the 12th of December of the same year he sailed from Southampton, and reached Zanzibar in April, 1863. The whole of the period since that time he had spent on the East Coast of Africa. He had stood to his post, and though he had not done a thousandth part of what he could wish, he had done his best. (Applause.) He was suddenly brought into connection with the Livingstone expedition; his profound veneration for Dr. Livingstone as a missionary, as an explorer, as the great vindicator of African freedom, induced him to join the expedition, hoping to be of service to him and to the great cause of Christianity. (Hear, hear.) That expedition was broken up, but it was not broken up through any fault of his. (Hear, hear.) He expected a little blackballing; he did not know whether he deserved it; he did not think he did, for he could vindicate his conduct in connection with that expedition, and throughout he had done no single action that would disgrace his brethren of the Church with which he was connected. (Applause.) Other formal business having been transacted, the Assembly adjourned.

On Thursday the session was resumed. Consent was given for the sale of Bonner-street Chapel (London); Heady Hill (Heywood); Ellsmere Chapel (Overton Circuit). In the case of Heady Hill the proceeds of sale would be given to the new premises, and in the case of Ellsmere, the proprietor will allow the church to rent the chapel. The chapel at March (Wisbeach Circuit) was reported to be in difficulties, and the trustees applied for power to sell. The assembly would consent to sell only after the Chapel Committee, to whom the matter was referred, had found no means of relief. There was no more cases of this kind. A communication from one of the circuits suggested that a memorial be sent to the Legislature on the subject of the attendance of registrars at chapel marriages, which, it was urged, was a badge of inferiority, and increased the expense of such marriages. It was maintained by several of the ministers that the chapels should be attended by registrars, who should also attend the churches. Mr. Snape (Liverpool) said the complaint which they

had to make was that Church clergymen were accounted more accurate than Nonconformist ministers. If the Government took any action in the matter, it ought to be to send the registrar to every marriage whether at church or chapel. It was resolved to defer the consideration of the proposal until later in the session. The Order of Good Templars in Bristol sent in a memorial, calling attention to the great evils of intemperance, and very strongly urged the assembly to give its sanction to the cause of Good Templarism. It was ultimately decided to refer the matter to the committee appointed to consider temperance memorials, Mr. Allchurch to act as convener. A long and animated discussion took place with reference to the separation of the Cleckheaton Church from the Cleckheaton Circuit, which the connexion committee recommended should be adopted.

In the course of the discussion, it was contended that the policy of separation was altogether opposed to the genius of Methodism. The Rev. Marmaduke Miller announced as his "platform" an utter indifference to mere methods of working. Providence had cast his lot among Free Methodism, and it was his wish to see the body a power in the land. If, therefore, division of circuits would promote God's cause, he would sanction that course, though not in a reckless way. He pointed out several instances in which division had been a signal service. The Rev. R. Chew would not give unlimited license to separate into small churches, but he would give guarantees in the shape of annual invitations to ministers, and seeing to it that any circuit from which any large church in it may desire to separate shall not be left in a state of weakness. When there was such danger he would discourage division. The consent of the committee to the separation of Cleckheaton was eventually confirmed. Mr. Chew then moved, and Mr. Stradforth seconded, the following resolution on the general question :—

That this Annual Assembly, believing that it is of the utmost importance to preserve and perpetuate circuit arrangements as distinguished from separate churches, is of opinion that it is not advisable for the Annual Assembly to consent to the separation of single churches from circuits excepting in such special cases as shall not be prejudicial to the evangelistic character of Methodism, or to the harmonious and effectual working out of our connexional principles.

This was unanimously adopted. On the motion of the Rev. S. S. Barton, seconded by the Rev. J. Martin, it was resolved that before arrangements were made and completed for the division of circuits, the Assembly should determine whether it approved or otherwise of the division. A committee was appointed to consider and report upon a memorial which had been received from the Sheffield district, in reference to the attendance of registrars at marriages held in Dissenting chapels. Several matters were referred to committees. The results of examinations by printed questions were read by the Rev. T. Hacking, of London ; and thanks were voted to the examiners, to Mr. G. Luckley, for his contributions of prizes, and to the Rev. T. Hacking for superintending the examinations. Some formal matters were disposed of, and the sitting was adjourned.

The Assembly tea-meeting took place in the Broadmead Rooms, when about 800 persons sat down to tea, after which a most enthusiastic public meeting was held in the same room. The meeting having been opened by singing and prayer, H. T. Mawson, Esq., of Harrogate (Connexional Treasurer), took the chair. The Rev. E. Boaden (ex-president) in speaking on "Our Chapels" stated that there were 1,200 chapels on the home circuit, which had been erected at a cost of one million sterling. The Rev. R. Bushell (missionary secretary) spoke powerfully on "Our Missions."

The Rev. Charles New, from South Africa, who received a most enthusiastic reception, spoke of his labours there, his exploring expeditions for missionary purposes into the interior, his discovery of snow on the African mountains, and his intense interest in the mission work of that continent. He referred to the indescribable horrors of the African slave-trade, stating that 70,000 slaves were annually sold, which, however, only represents about one-fifth of the number actually captured, the others dying through their cruel treatment. He paid a high tribute to the pioneer labours of the Rev. Dr. Krapf, to the bravery and energy of his (Mr. New's) colleague, the Rev. T. Wakefield, to the nobility and unexampled courage of Dr. Livingstone, and to the enterprise of Mr. Stanley. G. Luckley, Esq., of Newcastle-on-Tyne, spoke on the "Importance of Evangelistic Labours." The President, the Rev. J. S. Withington, who received a cordial greeting, spoke on "Sunday Schools," the Rev. J. Guttridge on the "Spiritual Condition of the Connexion," and the Rev. W. Griffith on the "Power of Religion in Times of Sorrow." A collection was made, amounting to about 20*l.*, towards defraying the expenses of the sittings of the Assembly.

Friday being set apart for the examination of ministerial character, &c., the Assembly sat with closed doors. The Rev. H. Breeden, after fifty years' ministerial labours, was allowed to retire, as was also the Rev. T. Cherry, through failing health. He was placed on the supernumerary list. The Rev. A. Gilbert, who has been thirty-six years in the ministry, was also placed on that list. The case of the Rev. J. Guttridge, an esteemed and popular minister of the connexion, was also considered. He was by request placed on the permanent supernumerary list, and declined to receive any grant from the superannuation fund. Among the deaths reported were those of the venerable Rev. J. Everett and the Rev. H. Hayward.

The Rev. Robert Davies has been compelled, in consequence of his voice failing, to resign his charge at Merton, Surrey.

The Rev. F. Bolton, B.A. (London), of Elland, near Halifax, has accepted a cordial invitation to the pastorate of High-street Congregational Church, Lancaster.

The Rev. J. M. Phillippo, after nearly fifty years of active service in the mission field, resigns on the 1st August the pastorate of the Church in Spanish Town, Jamaica. The Rev. Thomas Lea, of Lucea, has received and accepted the cordial and unanimous invitation of the church.

FALMOUTH.—The Rev. R. G. Moses, B.A., having resigned the pastorate of the Baptist Church, Falmouth, a large number of the congregation and other friends assembled last week in the vestry of the chapel, when Mr. J. D. Freeman, on behalf of the subscribers, presented him with a purse containing 66*l.* 4s., as a testimonial of their high esteem and regard. Mr. Moses acknowledged the gift in a suitable address.

NEWCASTLE.—The Rev. James Mursell, pastor of Hallfield Chapel, Bradford, has recently received a call to become the minister of the Berwick-street Baptist Chapel, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The charge, of which Mr. Mursell has signified his acceptance, was formerly occupied by the Rev. T. Pottenger, and has been recently vacated by the Rev. William Walters, who was formerly stationed at Halifax, and who is now in Birmingham. A meeting of the members of the church at Hallfield was held, when Mr. John Cooke, the congregational secretary, read Mr. Mursell's resignation of his present charge, in which he intimated that he had accepted the call to the chapel above referred to, and that his connection with the Hallfield Chapel would terminate after the first Sunday in August.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Rev. W. L. Giles having resigned the pastorate of the Baptist Church meeting in Cannon-street Chapel, Birmingham, after nine years' service, a meeting was held on July 30, Mr. E. Poole in the chair, at which a cordial address was presented to Mr. Giles on behalf of the church and congregation. The address referred to the services rendered by Mr. Giles as a minister; to the renovation of the chapel, which had been undertaken, at a cost of 2,300*l.*, under his auspices ; to the addition of some three hundred to the church during his pastorate ; to the work at the three village stations associated with Cannon-street ; and concluded by the expression of a cordial wish for the future usefulness and prosperity of Mr. Giles. Mr. J. H. Adams then presented him with a purse of fifty-three sovereigns and an elegant silver inkstand. In gratefully responding, Mr. Giles feelingly alluded to his long connection with the church and congregation, and said he thought the time had come for him to seek a new sphere of labour, and he hoped that one might soon open, although nothing was before him at present. He should ever remember the pleasant Christian intercourse he had enjoyed amongst them and their present expressions of affection. The friends then took leave of Mr. Giles, and the meeting separated.

LEICESTER.—The members of the church and congregation lately under the pastoral care of the Rev. Joseph Williams, at the Collegiate Church in Leicester, assembled on Tuesday, 30th ult., to take farewell of their pastor on his removal to the Congregational Church, Southend, Essex. There were present—Revs. R. Harley, F.R.S., and Joseph Wood (Congregational) ; Revs. J. P. Mursell, J. L. Whitley, J. Bateman (Baptist) ; C. H. Gough (Wesleyan) ; J. Ker, M.A. (Presbyterian) ; R. Parkes, J. Wileman, and W. J. Brownson (Primitive Methodist) ; M. Cotton (New Connexion) ; C. C. Coe (Unitarian)—letters being received from Revs. Dr. Haycroft, S. T. Williams, J. C. Pike, and others, absent from the town, expressing personal attachment to Mr. Williams, and regret at their inability to attend. A large company having taken tea, the chair was occupied by the Rev. R. Harley, after which an illuminated address, handsomely framed, was presented to the Rev. J. Williams, expressive of the affection of his late flock, and their sorrow at his removal. The address was accompanied by a purse containing 40*l.* An elegant album was also presented to Mrs Williams by the members of her Bible-class. In the course of the evening testimony was borne by a great number of speakers to the great regard and esteem felt by the churches of the town for Mr. Williams's personal character and ministry, accompanied by very cordial desires for blessing in his new scene of labour.

A CLERGYMAN PREACHING AT SURREY CHAPEL.—The Rev. Samuel Minton, of Eaton Chapel, Pimlico, preached on Sunday evening in the Surrey Chapel, from the words, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." The prayers were read by the Rev. Newman Hall, and the spacious building was crowded in every part. After the sermon the rev. gentleman said that he had chosen his subject as appropriate to the occasion when, for the first time for many long years, a clergyman of the Church of England occupied that pulpit, which any minister of the Gospel might esteem it an honour to fill. He then deplored what he called the disastrous results of the Act of Uniformity, and said that now the Established Church was unmistakably reaping as she had sown, for those very Dissenters whom she drove from her pulpits were doing their utmost to depose her from her exalted position as the Established Church of the realm. He, however, thanked God that there were signs of a better state of things, and a tendency in the Church and out to draw closer the bonds of Christian fellowship and love, and to remove those impediments which existed to a freer intercourse between the different sections of the Christian Church. Their minister, for instance, had invited him to fill his pulpit, well knowing that for the present he was not able to return the compliment, and he knew there were other Nonconformists ready to do the same, and many excellent clergymen of the Established Church who would gladly accept the invitation.

BASINGSTOKE.—Interesting services were held at this place on the 16th ult. in connection with the settlement of the Rev. J. E. Flower, M.A., of New College, over the Congregational church in this town. In the morning the Rev. Dr. Halley delivered an introductory discourse on Congregational principles, with special reference to the ministry. A statement was made on behalf of the church and congregation by Mr. T. M. Kingdon, one of the deacons, sketching the course by which they had been led, in the providence of God, to invite Mr. Flower to the pastorate. This was followed by a statement from the pastor elect briefly declaring his own faith in Jesus Christ, and a general outline of his views in regard to the main doctrines of Christianity and the ministry of the Gospel. The prayer was offered by the Rev. J. Fletcher, of Christchurch, secretary of the Hants Congregational Union, after which a most able and impressive charge to the minister was delivered by his father, the Rev. J. Flower, of Beccles. At the conclusion of this service the foundation-stone of the school enlargement was laid by the mayor, W. Glover, Esq., who was presented with a handsome silver trowel from the officers and teachers of the Sunday-school, of which he is treasurer. The Rev. Dr. Halley offered a dedicatory prayer, and the Rev. G. J. Proctor, of Mornington Church, London, and late pastor of the church at Basingstoke, delivered a short speech suitable to the occasion. Luncheon was served in the schoolroom, at which upwards of seventy persons were present, and several congratulatory speeches were made. In the evening the Rev. J. F. Stevenson, LL.B., of Reading, preached to the church and congregation a very eloquent and practical sermon. Besides the ministers above mentioned the following took part in, or were present at, the services—the Revs. G. Jennings, of Tadley ; W. Fuller, of Winchester ; H. Young, and W. H. Hines, of Basingstoke ; E. Walker, of Andover ; J. Spurgeon, of Odiham ; and J. Johnson, Cheshunt.

A NEW WELSH CHAPEL FOR LONDON.—On Thursday evening the foundation-stone of the new Welsh Congregational Chapel, to be erected on the site of the old one in Southwark-bridge-road, was laid by Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P. A numerous company were present to witness the ceremony, including Mr. H. Richard, M.P., the Revs. Newman Hall, LL.B., Dr. Rees, T. Thomas, Gwynne Jones, R. Williams, G. M. Murphy, and others. The proceedings were commenced with a hymn, sung in Welsh, after which Dr. Rees read a short sketch of the circumstances relating to the new building. In 1774 there was a numerous colony of Welsh labourers in and about Smithfield, who from want of any religious teaching lapsed into shocking immorality, and used to hold a sort of Vanity Fair every Sunday, at which all kinds of orgies were engaged in. An effort was made to establish a place of worship amongst them, which was attended with gradual success, and continued until 1806, when by the exertions of a Mr. Francis a chapel was erected in Southwark. Owing to various causes, partly to the neglect of the then minister, this chapel ceased to exist about six years ago. Since then strenuous efforts have been made to re-establish it, and sufficient funds have been raised to commence building a new edifice. The total cost of the chapel is to be about 5,000*l.*, of which 3,000*l.* goes to purchase the site. By dint of subscriptions from generous friends, including the munificent donation of 500*l.* from Mr. S. Morley, M.P., the trustees hope to be able to open the chapel before the end of the year with a debt of only 1,500*l.* Mr. H. Richard, M.P., having read an address to Mr. Morley from the congregation, the latter gentleman in reply said that he felt very great pleasure in being there to aid in such a good work. It was not the mere ceremony that he cared for, but the opportunity of expressing to the congregation his deep sympathy with them. It was a very solemn business that they were engaged in. They were a power as Nonconformists, and it depended upon them to show to the outside world a high standard of spiritual life. They needed to give evidence in their daily life that their religion was a living and guiding principle, and he was sure that if they were actuated by the motives he had indicated, their efforts would be crowned with success, and that the result would be the multiplying of their places of worship. The Rev. Newman Hall spoke of the necessity of having services in Welsh for Welsh people, after which he offered up an impressive prayer. An adjournment then took place to the hall in Newington-causeway, where a meeting was held, the chair being taken by Mr. H. Richard, M.P., and addresses being delivered both in English and Welsh, by Mr. Richard, the Rev. R. Williams, Fetter-lane Welsh Chapel ; Rev. Gwynne Jones, Hackney ; Dr. Rees, Swansea ; Mr. J. Griffith (Gohebydd), Rev J. Thomas (Landore), and G. M. Murphy. A cordial vote of thanks to the

chairman was carried, and, after singing another Welsh hymn, the meeting separated. The sum of 30*l.* was collected during the meeting towards the chapel fund.

Correspondence.

MILTON MOUNT COLLEGE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—Since our movement is a denominational one, and an increasing number of pastors have a personal interest in it, the managers would be obliged if you would insert the following communications. In coming to a conclusion they were aided by the presence and judgment of ladies.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
WILLIAM GUEST.

To Miss Hadland, Malvernbury, Great Malvern, Worcestershire.

Dear Madam,—At a meeting of the General Board of Management, held in London, July 30, 1872, it was unanimously resolved to invite you to preside as head mistress over Milton Mount College, established especially for the education of daughters of Congregational ministers, and to be opened during the spring of 1873. The number of candidates for the position was large, and many of the applications were from ladies at the head of important schools.

In selecting you for this position we are assured that you will co-operate with us in accomplishing our intentions: we aim to establish an institution which shall be very much the opposite of a merely fashionable boarding school. We wish to give, not a superficial, but a solid and thorough education: to train pupils not merely to be accomplished, but useful members of society, with good sense and right apprehensions of womanly obligations.

We are very far from undervaluing refinement of manners, accomplishments, and the education of the taste; but our desire is to prepare the pupils to be wives, mothers, teachers, and missionaries; and to train them to love unselfish work and Christian usefulness.

Society just now is creating lucrative and most honourable positions for teachers in elementary schools. The college we are labouring to establish has this, not for its exclusive, but prominent object—to qualify for these and other important engagements; and we desire that the pupils should be inspired with an ambition to occupy such places.

It is our hope that many of the pupils may be required to prepare for a University examination, and that their studies may be directed to this result. A literary certificate has become indispensable to good scholastic appointments. We have very much at heart the service which we can thus render to ministers' daughters who are looking forward to self-support.

Above all other acquirements we place the formation of Christian principles. There is a time in many a girl's history when, through the teaching of the Spirit of God, worldliness and selfishness cease to sway the motives of life, and when the love of Christ and of benevolence become the mainspring of the character. This object our movement has from the beginning made supreme, and we deem the assertion of it at this period of great moment.

Connected with this we should be gratified if a missionary spirit could be maintained in the school.

While we do not aim to teach housekeeping in any complete sense, we should be glad if you would aid us in the purpose to train the girls to the practical knowledge of domestic duties. We wish them to honour labour, and to cultivate independence of feeling.

You will have many advantages. Milton Mount College is not founded for emolument, but for the true Christian culture of women. Pupils cannot think they are conferring a favour by coming to us. The home influences that have surrounded them have been favourable to study, economy, and piety, and in these homes prayers on your behalf will be constantly ascending.

We trust that God, whose Providence has been over our movement from the beginning, has been guiding us in the invitation we now address to you; and that, through all the years of your devotion to education, He has been preparing you for the high service of becoming the first head-mistress of the college. We will sustain you, as far as possible, in the duties which at the commencement must prove very arduous and responsible. Happily you have learnt to whom you can look for wisdom and sufficiency.

We are, dear Madam, yours most truly,
(Signed on behalf of the board)
Wm. Guest, Hon. Sec.

Congregational Rooms,
18, South-street, Finsbury.

Guildhall, E.C., July 31, 1872.

Gentlemen,—I am deeply sensible of the honour conferred upon me by your invitation to preside over Milton Mount College; and I thank you for stating so distinctly your aims in its establishment. I esteem the mission you thus assign me one of the noblest to which a Christian lady can aspire, and, while very conscious of my own insufficiency, I cheerfully undertake this great work, in the simple confidence that He who has so remarkably placed it in my hands, will never fail to supply all needful grace.

It gives me unfeigned pleasure to recognise in your programme the identical principles which have long guided those with whom it has been my privilege hitherto to labour. I trust that the same happy experience may be ours—the personal conversion of many of the pupils. If this inestimable blessing be vouchsafed, a missionary spirit can hardly fail to follow; and those who know the luxury of leading sinners to the Saviour will have their own faith marvellously increased. Simple, childlike faith is the best of helpers in the pursuit of knowledge, and is, indeed, as the Apostle Peter points out, the root of every other grace.

Permit me also, gentlemen, to congratulate you on your determination that the training received at the college shall be that which is best calculated to form active, useful, independent members of society. I have every confidence that, receiving as they will do the best instruction London can afford, many of the pupils will in due time graduate with honours in public examinations, and take their stand with the first female teachers of the age. All will, I hope, prove by their own future well-regulated homes, that it is possible thoroughly to develope a girls' intellectual power without unfitting her to shine in that which, after all, is woman's truest sphere—her own fireside.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I thank you most heartily for your promised counsel and support, and beg to assure you that no effort shall be wanting on my part to carry out your great ends. Difficulties we cannot fail to encounter; occasional disappointments will doubtless occur; but, God helping us, Milton Mount College shall ultimately prove, by actual experiment, that no education can compare with that which is based on sound religious culture.

I am, Gentlemen,
Yours faithfully and obliged,
Selina Hadland.

To the Board of Management of the Milton Mount College.

TETTENHALL PROPRIETARY SCHOOL.

The annual "speech day" and distribution of prizes to the successful students at the above educational institution took place on Tuesday week last, when there was a numerous assemblage of the directors and supporters of the school, and friends and relatives of the pupils. Mr. Hugh Mason, J.P., of Ashton-under-Lyne, presided, and amongst the other gentlemen present were the Rev. T. G. Horton (Wolverhampton), the Rev. R. W. Ann (Handsworth), the Rev. W. Jubb (Oldbury), and Messrs. T. W. Shaw (chairman of the directors), W. Edwards, T. Bantock, S. S. Mander, Dr. Symon, A. Briggs (Daventry), H. James (Birmingham), W. Hatton, Councillors W. H. Jones and A. Weir, Mr. Bidlake, Mr. Stevens (Walsall), Mr. J. Shaw, Mr. H. M. Short, Mr. J. K. Barnes, Mr. H. Taylor, Mr. H. Pomnitz, Mr. H. James, Mr. S. Dickenson (secretary to the board of directors), Mr. A. Younge, M.A., the headmaster, &c. The Rev. T. G. Horton having offered up an appropriate prayer, the first part of the proceedings was the delivery of a number of recitations in French, German, Greek, and English by some of the principal scholars, which was characterised in each instance by a clear and vigorous expression, and accuracy of pronunciation. The recitations were listened to with pleasure, and those who took part in the delivery of them were warmly applauded. Two of the pieces were original, viz., the "Monkey and the Dolphin," written by Mr. W. R. Younge, and the "Address on the Opening of Universities," by the Senior Tettenhall Scholar, Mr. E. F. A. Briggs.

The next part of the proceedings was the distribution of prizes, and these were presented by the chairman. They consisted of handsomely bound volumes of books on appropriate subjects. The successful students were warmly cheered by their fellows as they returned from the chairman's table. The following are the principal awards:—

Senior Tettenhall scholarship awarded to E. F. A. Briggs.
Directors' scholarship awarded to R. W. Hudson.
"Crossley" prize for Greek—E. F. A. Briggs.
"Salt" prize for mathematics—E. F. James.
"Mills" prize for good conduct—J. Harper.
Head Master's prize for English verse—W. R. Younge.
Head Master's prize for Latin and Greek, prose composition—E. F. A. Briggs.
Head Master's prizes awarded to those boys who passed Cambridge local examination for the first time:—A. W. Topp, J. J. Stockburn, Jno. Harper, A. F. James, and James Buckley.

The Headmaster said that the prize for good conduct was awarded by the vote of the scholars.

The Chairman then addressed the company. He expressed his confidence in the stability and success of the school, and his desire to say something to the pupils which they would profitably remember. With that view he referred to some of the incidents of his past life: "When I was about the age of the very youngest boy belonging to this school, my parents—who were exceedingly poor—sent me to a cotton factory to earn my daily bread. Although my father was poor in this world's goods, I was blessed with a parent who was upright and honourable, and who set before his children an example worthy of imitation. (Hear, hear.) In that cotton factory it was my daily lot to drudge—not during the comparatively short hours which men now work, but for long and wearisome hours. But the example set me by my father, and pursued by me through life, of uprightness and honest industry, and above all and beyond all, the blessing of my heavenly Father, have enabled me to achieve a position which is far from being obscure or dishonourable in my own country. (Loud cheers.) I would, therefore, say to my young friends—many of whom may perhaps appear here to-day as scholars for the last time—that it rests very much with themselves as to what their future position in life shall be. I have no doubt that, young as they are, some little ambition, or some aspirations, fire their souls and their minds, and when they look, as no doubt they do look, at men in our House of Commons and the men who are at the head of some of our great industrial establishments, they indulge in the hope that by-and-by, they may be similarly distinguished by their own meritorious exertions. I tell them that if those aspirations are to be realised, they must be careful how they walk in the straight path of duty, and strive to be worthy of any position they may ultimately achieve. (Cheers.) I hope every boy in this school is a truthful boy; for the boy who is not remarkable for his truthfulness is already standing upon the verge of a dangerous precipice. We, who have to struggle commercially, politically, and educationally, with the affairs of this life see not a little that is not straightforward, honourable, and true. Therefore let me impress upon them to take care that their future life is one of the highest and purest truthfulness. (Applause.) I also hope and earnestly desire that the boys are, and all will, be abstainers from all intoxicating liquors, for we see every day the dire effects of the use of them. Although I never made a pledge to abstain, yet my daily experience in police-courts of the wretchedness and misery resulting from the use of intoxicating drinks leads me to say that I do hope you will never allow yourselves to become the slaves of such a temptation, and I do assure you that if you are abstainers you will not regret it, both as regards your happiness, comfort, health, and pocket. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, I desire to return my warmest thanks to the directors of the school for having invited me to discharge this agreeable duty to-day. I hope I shall, when I leave Wolverhampton, never forget Tettenhall School, and I hope it will be in my power—as it is my intention—to do some little good for this college, which shall cause my visit to be remembered afterwards. It does infinite honour to the Nonconformists of Wolverhampton that they have built and maintained this college, and carried it on for the number of years they have, in the admirable way it has been hitherto conducted. (Cheers.) I do sincerely hope and believe that prosperity is about to shine on the directors for the many sacrifices they have made. The chairman resumed his seat amidst long-continued cheering.

The Secretary read a letter apologising for the absence of Mr. Morley, M.P., Mr. Crossley, Mr. Alderman Avery, of Birmingham, the Mayor of Walsall, Dr. Miller, and several other gentlemen interested in the welfare of the college, and who regretted their inability to be present at the meeting.

The Secretary (Mr. S. S. Dickinson) then read the report for the past year, which stated that the number of scholars in the institution had doubled during the past two years, and that there was the expectation of a considerable increase next term. Reference was then made to the position of the pupils when brought into public competition with those of other schools:—

At the last Cambridge local examination, eleven boys from this school passed, of whom five took honours, gaining among them no less than ten marks of special distinction. If we take into account the number of boys in the school, this result will compare very favourably with that of most other similar establishments. And it is to be specially borne in mind that we did not send in selected candidates, whose success might be safely predicted, but submitted entire forms to the test of this examination. Notwithstanding this, our percentage of success is considerably above the average, as will be seen from the following statement:—

Percentage who passed throughout the kingdom	63·8
" " " from Tettenhall	68·8
Percentage who passed in honours throughout the kingdom	24·9
" " " from Tettenhall	31·2

The work of the seniors deserve especial mention. All our senior candidates passed without exception, and three took honours. And generally, both in case of seniors and juniors, we may refer with some pride to the character of the honours gained, all being either in the first or second class, and everyone being accompanied by one or more marks of special distinction.

The following are the names of the successful candidates:—

Seniors.

R. F. Horton, first-class honours, distinguished in Latin, Greek, French, English, and Religious Knowledge. E. F. A. Briggs, second-class honours, English and Religious Knowledge. Thomas A. Roberts, second-class honours, Religious Knowledge. A. W. Topp and J. J. Stockburn.

Juniors.

H. N. Mellor, first-class honours, Applied Mathematics. E. F. James, second-class honours. Applied Mathematics. R. W. Hudson, John Harper, James Buckley, and A. F. James.

I have also much pleasure in announcing that at the London University S. Theodore Mander from this college passed the matriculation examination in January with great credit, gaining a place in the First Division.

Since our last annual meeting there has been a competition here for two of the scholarships, which are tenable in the college during residence for two years, and in both examinations the answering of the candidates has been exceedingly creditable. The Senior Tettenhall Scholarship has been awarded to E. F. A. Briggs, who, in a general examination, embracing Latin, Greek, French, English, and Mathematics, succeeded in gaining more than three fifths of the total number of marks. For the Directors' Scholarship there were three candidates, to all of whom credit is due. This scholarship has been awarded to Robert William Hudson.

In conclusion, the report of the directors states that scholarships enjoyed by the college are now five in number. Three of them are tenable in the college, while the others, for which they are indebted to the liberality of two of the directors of the college (Mr. T. W. Shaw, chairman of the company, and Mr. S. S. Mander), are intended exclusively for those of the scholars who purpose continuing their studies at the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, or London. It is not improbable that they will at the next meeting be able to announce the establishment of others of the same description; indeed, a very handsome beginning in this direction has already been made by Richard Johnson, Esq., of

Manchester, and J. W. McCardie, Esq., of Birmingham, who have promised each 10*l.* per annum towards the foundation of a third University scholarship.

Dr. SYMON, who had had some experience of German school education, spoke in eulogistic terms of the high standard of efficiency obtained at the Tettenhall School. The effect of the education the pupils were receiving was manifested in the development of character. He had some diffidence, on his return from the continent, in sending his children to an English school, but he could say that he no longer entertained any degree of misgiving, after he had observed the character of the instruction that was being imparted at this college, and he could truthfully say that he did not believe there was a better school in the kingdom than the Tettenhall School. (Hear, hear.) He was particularly in favour of the system pursued at this school, as the education imparted to the boys was so thoroughly and clearly grounded in their minds that it would not easily pass away, but would prove of the greatest use to them throughout their future lives. Boys were not sent to school to get knowledge, however paradoxical that might seem; they were sent to learn how to acquire knowledge afterwards. (Hear, hear.) Dr. Symon spoke in high terms of the domestic management of the college: he had had one of his own sons there, and whilst there he had been as happy as the days were long. ("Hear, hear," and applause.)

Mr. A. BRIGGS (the parent of another pupil at the college) said he could hardly express sufficiently his feelings of gratitude for the great kindness his son had received whilst a resident in that institution, and the excellent character of the instruction from which he had benefited.

Mr. SHAW moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting renews its expression of thorough confidence in the head master, and at the same time congratulates him on the high honours recently gained by him at the London University.

He thought that the report which had been read, and the honours gained by the students, was sufficient evidence of conscientious care and industry on the part of both teachers and taught. They had all heard from the same report that the *morale* of the school had been all that could be desired. (Hear, hear.) It had always been the desire of the directors that Tettenhall College should stand high not only in the educational attainments, but also in the good morals and manly deportment of those who were trained within its walls.

Mr. H. JAMES seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation.

The HEAD MASTER returned thanks for the compliment paid to him, and explained at some length the plan on which he acted in the education and training of the boys entrusted to his care. With regard to the conduct of the students in the college during the past year, he could truthfully say that he was thoroughly satisfied with them. (Hear, hear.) He was also glad to say, in reply to the remarks of the chairman, that the boys generally were distinguished by a large amount of truthfulness. It was very rarely that a boy told him a lie; on the other hand, if any one of them had committed a fault he was always found, on making inquiry, that the fault was admitted in a straightforward and honest way. (Hear, hear.) He spoke very highly of the great assistance he had received from the second and assistant masters. The report read by the secretary referred to the great benefit derived by the college from the scholarships that had been established in connection with the institution. He fully endorsed that statement; they could not hope to succeed in the work of education half so well were it not for incentives such as these to encourage the boys in their studies; and the college was under the greatest obligation to Mr. Shaw and Mr. Mander for their great liberality in founding the two scholarships possessed by the school. (Applause.) He had great pleasure in moving that the best thanks of all present be given to those gentlemen for their kindness. (Applause.)

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Rev. T. G. HORTON next moved a vote of thanks to Mr. J. Shaw, the second-master, and to the assistant-masters, for the very efficient manner in which they discharged their duties. He assured the head-master that he had the fullest concurrence of the directors in the educational scheme of which he had given them an outline that afternoon, and which he had so successfully carried out, and —after speaking of the importance of a good classical and commercial education for the advancement of a youth, in whatever business or profession he might pursue—he concluded by wishing Mr. Younge continued and unceasing success in the future.

Mr. S. S. MANDER seconded the resolution, and expressed the great pleasure with which he had listened to the proceedings that afternoon, and to the very satisfactory report that had been received. The motion was carried with acclamation, and briefly responded to by Mr. J. SHAW.

Votes of thanks were also accorded to Miss Bayliss, the matron of the institution, for her kindness and attention to promote the happiness and comfort of the boys; and to Mr. Mason for presiding. The company then adjourned to another room, where tea was provided.

The Senatus of the University of Edinburgh have conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws on Dr. Döllinger and Mr. William Chambers, formerly Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

On Thursday, on the motion to consider the amendments made in the Public Health Bill, Mr. Knight moved that they be considered that day month. He was opposed to the centralising tendency of the bill, maintaining that we were already the best cleaned and the best drained people in the world, and that we should go on improving without a social revolution, which he believed would cost us seventy millions in the next ten years. Mr. Gregory, Mr. Corrance, Mr. Hurst, and Mr. Newdegate also spoke against the bill. Mr. Stansfeld denied that the bill would increase the power of the central authority, or would add to the expenditure already sanctioned by existing legislation. The amendment was negatived by 168 to 16, and the bill as amended was considered. Several amendments of a formal character were introduced.

On Friday, the bill was read a third time, and passed without opposition. It was then sent to the Upper House, and was at once read a first time.

On Monday Lord Ripon at some length explained the provisions of the bill. Lord Fortescue congratulated the country upon the passing of such measures as the Public Health Bill, the Licensing Bill, and the Mines Regulation Bills in the same session, and hoped that next year sanitary legislation would be carried a step further. The bill was then read a second time.

LICENSING BILL.

The Commons, on Friday, at the day sitting, resumed the consideration in committee of the Licensing Bill, taking up the 24th clause. Mr. Vernon Harcourt moved the insertion of an amendment to the effect that among those who should be enabled to obtain refreshments up to one o'clock a.m., at licensed houses, might be persons attending the meetings of any clubs or other societies associated for any lawful purpose. The amendment was rejected. Mr. Bruce moved to add words to enable the keeper of a licensed house to supply refreshments to persons attending "any theatre." Mr. Baines and Mr. Collins were opposed to establishing a precedent in favour of one particular kind of public amusement. The amendment was supported by Mr. Locke, and on division it was carried by 124 to 96. Colonel Barttelot moved that the words "or other places of amusement" should be added, but his suggestion was negatived, and the clause was agreed to. Clauses from 25 to 31, both inclusive, were subsequently ordered to stand part of the bill, and progress was reported.

At the evening sitting the discussion in committee on the Licensing Bill was continued at Clause 32. Sir W. Lawson moved the addition to the 34th clause of a proviso to the effect that the ratepayers might, by a vote, permit or withhold a licence, the object being to introduce the permissive prohibitive system. This amendment Mr. Whitmore endeavoured to amend by restricting the provision to the grant of new licences, but he was defeated on division by 118 to 42. The committee afterwards divided on Sir W. Lawson's motion, which was negatived by 128 to 23. An amendment, proposed by Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson, providing that in cases of summary proceedings the defendant may, if he pleases, give evidence, was carried by 68 to 51. Progress was reported on the 60th clause.

On Monday the committee was resumed. The remaining Clauses of the bill, 60, 61, and 62, were agreed to, and the new clauses were then taken. The first of these—printed in red ink in the bill sent down by the Lords—involves the question of grocers' licences. It declares that the licences defined by the Act shall not be required for the sale of wine and spirits by retail, not to be consumed on the premises, by a wholesale dealer possessing a licence from the Inland Revenue. Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson proposed to restrict this privilege to premises exclusively used for the sale of intoxicating liquors. Mr. Gregory, Sir W. Lawson, Lord Sandon, and others supported the amendment. Mr. Bruce strongly opposed it, stating that the police had reported most favourably of the operation of the grocers' licence; but on a division, Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson carried his amendment by 95 to 65. The Marquis of Hartington moved a series of clauses embodying machinery for extending the bill to Ireland. An incidental amendment, moved by Sir D. Corrigan, with the object of closing public-houses on Sunday in Ireland, was negatived by 61 to 28. A proposal by Mr. Downing to empower the justices in quarter sessions to close public-houses during any part or the whole of Sundays was negatived by 50 to 25. Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson carried a new clause providing that hereafter no house shall be qualified for a licence unless, besides complying with certain structural requirements, it is of the annual value of 50*l.* for public-houses in towns of 100,000 inhabitants, and 30*l.* for beer-houses; of 30*l.* and 20*l.* in towns of 10,000 inhabitants, and 15*l.* and 10*l.* in all other places. Several other new clauses were added.

EXTRADITION TREATIES.

In the Lords on Friday, Lord Granville, in reply to Lord Rosebery, described the action of the Foreign Office in regard to extradition treaties. The treaty with Germany had been signed and put in force by Order in Council. The treaties with Belgium and Denmark would be signed almost immediately. A counter-proposal from the Netherlands was under consideration, and our last proposal to Austria was being considered by that Government. A proposal had also been made to the United States, whose answer was now awaited. From Italy a draught treaty had been received, which was under consideration. Negotiations with Spain were going on, but the progress hitherto made had not been great.

SCOTCH EDUCATION BILL.

On the same day, the Duke of Argyll having explained the Commons' amendments to the Scotch Education Bill, moved that their lordships do not insist upon their amendments. Lord Colonsay was willing to accept the Commons' amendment in the preamble setting forth that it has been the "custom" to give religious instruction in Scotland. With regard to the new board it would be better to appoint it for five years certain. The schoolmasters ought, moreover, to be more independent of the local boards. The Duke of Argyll said that the most important function of the new board would be to suggest what the new code should be, and this duty could be discharged not in two years but in one. The duration of the board might, however, be prolonged to five years if necessary. Lord Salisbury argued in favour of the prolongation of time, and the Duke of Argyll consented to amend the Commons' amendment by striking out "two" and inserting "three" years as the period of absolute duration, while retaining the proviso enabling the board to be prolonged for two years more. This amendment was agreed to. The Duke of Argyll then moved that the other amendments of the Commons be agreed to. This motion was put and declared by the Lord Chancellor to be carried. Some conversation ensued, in consequence of a declaration by the Duke of Buccleuch that he had not heard the question put. He also protested against the neglect of the Government in not printing the amendments. He regretted the destruction of the old Scotch educational system, believing that the bill would not put anything better in its place.

THE LAST SUPPLY VOTES.

The Commons met on Saturday, and in committee of supply the remaining Civil Service Estimates were voted, including certain postponed votes in Classes 1, 2, and 5—the Estimates for the Customs, Post Office and Telegraph Services, and a Supplementary Civil Service Estimate.

On the vote for the Science and Art Department, Mr. Baxter and Mr. Forster were called on to give further explanations regarding the defalcations at the South Kensington Museum; and Mr. Walpole, in moving the vote for the British Museum, answered some questions which were on the paper, relating to the progress of the excavations at Ephesus. The Marquis of Hartington, in moving the Irish Education Vote, related the measures taken to improve the position of the teachers. For this purpose a supplementary vote will be taken for three years of nearly 100,000*l.*, which will be distributed among them on the principle of payment by results. On the vote for the New Courts of Justice, Mr. C. Bentinck repeated his complaints of the manner in which the great national work is being carried out, and Mr. Ayrton gave the latest information as to the condition of the contracts and designs.

On the vote for Diplomatic Services, Mr. Monk revived the controversy as to the legality of Mr. Clarke Jervoise's Mission to the Papal Court, and moved to reduce the vote by 200*l.*, the amount allowed him for house rent. The Attorney-General, in reply, stated that the result of a careful investigation of the matter by himself, the Solicitor-General, and Dr. Deane, had been to confirm him in the opinion that the mission was perfectly legal. The communion with the Pope, prohibited by the Bill of Rights and the Act of Settlement, was religious communion, and diplomatic relations were not included. In support of this contention he reviewed the statutes and read legal opinions given by Lord Denman, Lord Campbell, Lord Cranworth, Lord Cottenham, Sir Herbert Jenner, and Sir J. Dodson when law officers. This argument did not convince Mr. O. Morgan, Mr. Sinclair Aytoun, and Mr. Newdegate, who still maintained that since the Pope had ceased to be a temporal sovereign the mission was illegal. On a division, Mr. Monk's amendment was negatived by 45 to 17.

The remaining Army Estimates were voted, as well as a supplementary Naval Estimate, and this closed the committee of supply for the year.

On Monday on the Diplomatic Service Vote a third debate on Mr. Clarke Jervoise's Mission to the Vatican was raised by Mr. Newdegate, who obtained from Lord Enfield an assurance that this gentleman is in no way accredited to the Court of Rome. Another attempt to strike his house-rent out of the vote was defeated by 56 to 30.

The Appropriation Bill was brought in and read a first time.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Commons consumed several hours on Wednesday in the consideration of the Ecclesiastical Courts Bill, which had come down from the House of Lords, and the second reading of which was moved by Mr. Cross. Mr. Gladstone admitted that the subject was one of considerable importance, and urged Mr. Cross not to be deterred by its difficulties, promising that, if he would bring in the bill again next session, the Government would give him all the facilities in their power for passing it into law. After a distinctly hostile debate, the motion for the second reading of the bill was negatived.

The Factories (Hours of Labour) Bill, the Sale of Liquor on Sundays Bill, and the Union of Benefices Bill have been withdrawn.

In the Lords on Thursday the Mines Regulation Bills, the Corrupt Practices at Municipal Elections Bill, the Factories (Steam Whistles) Bill, and the Adulteration of Food, Drugs, &c., Bill, were read a third time and passed.

On the same day Lord Leitrim called attention to the report of the Select Committee on the Irish Land Act. Lord Kimberley said he was glad that the select committee had not found fault in any material particular with the working of the Act. The matter, however, would receive the consideration of the Government during the recess.

The Lord Chamberlain brought up the Queen's answer to the address relating to the schemes of the Endowed Schools Commissioners, stating that the Queen had withheld her assent from the Beaumaris, Felstead, and Tideswell schemes.

Mr. Gladstone announced on Friday that the question of local taxation would be considered by the Government during the recess, with a view to legislation next session.

Lord Ripon, in answer to Lord Clanricarde, said that the report of the Joint Committee on Railway Amalgamation had already been placed on the table, and its recommendations would receive the careful consideration of the Government during the recess.

On Friday Mr. Forster stated, in answer to Mr. M'Laren, that there was no intention of increasing the vote for education in Scotland because an addition had been made to the vote for education in Ireland.

On Friday the Irish Church Act Amendment Bill, the Wild Birds Protection Bill, the Statute Law Revision Bill, the Countess of Mayo's Annuity Bill, and the Military Manœuvres Bill were read a third time and passed.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

After many stormy months—becoming even more tempestuous as the end drew near—there is tranquillity at Versailles; the Assembly having on Saturday, after some unimportant business, adjourned till the 11th of November. On the previous evening M. Thiers gave a farewell official dinner, at which he looked very much fatigued, but was energetic and was full of cheerful talk. He reiterated his conviction that the Germans will be paid out by September, 1873, and spoke strongly against any party appeals to the country while that great task—the primary object of the Assembly's existence—remained unaccomplished. Considerable preparations for the President's stay at Trouville were made. He left Paris on Sunday, and was accompanied by Madame Thiers and Mdlle. Dosne, by his two orderly officers, his two private secretaries, and his servants. While at Trouville M. Thiers will grant no audiences whatever, except to private friends, it being his desire to enjoy complete repose during his holiday.

The *Times* correspondent says that the present amount of the subscriptions to the loan is forty-four milliards, and as the subscriptions of 5f. are not reducible, it is calculated that the other subscribers will receive 7 per cent. for the capital they have subscribed.

The Duc d'Aumale continues to reside at Chantilly in the most complete retirement. He will, however, attend the sittings of the General Council of the Department of the Oise, and afterwards proceed to Aix-les-Bains.

GERMANY.

The festival at Munich in honour of the University Jubilee was commenced on Thursday. There were 3,000 guests, including deputations from Austrian, Swiss, Dutch, Swedish, and English Universities. All the German Universities are represented. On Thursday morning there was a grand procession of professors and students in ornate costume to the University. Dr. Döllinger's festal address was confined to a survey of the historical development of the University. In the evening, notwithstanding a drenching rain, there was a torchlight procession of 2,000 students, who assembled before the King's Palace, and sang the National Anthem amid the enthusiasm of the people. The King came out afterwards to thank them. He had on the preceding day decorated Dr. Döllinger with the Order of Merit of the Bavarian Crown. Herr von Lutz, the Minister of Public Instruction, was the bearer of the King's congratulations, and announced the foundation, on the part of His Majesty, of a scholarship for students in History. Professor Sybel, on the part of various German associations; Professor Max Müller, on the part of foreign Universities; and Professor Ernest Curtius, on behalf of the learned societies, delivered congratulatory addresses. Upon the occasion of the jubilee the Faculty of Medicine conferred the honorary degree of Doctor upon M. Sunninger, of Leyden, M. Quetelet, of Brussels, and Herren Suiron and Daniel, of Hamburg. The Faculty of National Economy conferred the degree of Doctor upon the English Premier, Mr. Gladstone, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Mr. John Stuart Mill. The Philosophical Faculty bestowed the honorary degree of Doctor upon Professor Dwight and Lord Acton; upon Minister Sella, of Italy, and Pruner Bey, of Cairo.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

It is announced from Brussels that the Prince of Wales is to be the godfather of the infant Belgian princess, and the Duchess Clementine of Saxe-Coburg the godmother.

Francis Deak, the eminent Liberal Hungarian, who has been seriously ill, is now recovering.

A general amnesty has been proclaimed in Mexico by the Congress, and the Presidential election has been ordered to take place.

Meeting of the Three Emperors.—Not only the Czar, but also the Grand Ducal Heir to the Imperial Throne, intend visiting Berlin in the beginning of September. During a portion of their stay the Emperor of Austria is likely to be also the guest of the Emperor William. The King of Italy has declined the invitation of the Emperor of Germany to be present at the military manœuvres at Potsdam in September.

Three Dangers.—Several of the French papers state that M. Thiers was in conversation a few days back with some deputies, when reference was made to the number of embarrassments in the present political situation of France. "There are three dangers," said the President, with a smile, "and three only—Radicalism, Bonapartism, and my death. The first I do not think very menacing; the second requires to be watched over carefully; and as for the third, there is no question of it." The following words are also attributed to M. Thiers in his conversation with the Commissioners of Prorogation:—"I desired to introduce in France the English Constitution. This is no longer to be thought of. We have been forced to cross the Atlantic. We are now at the United States; and what we have best to do is to remain and arrange ourselves there."

Prince Bismarck's "Silver Wedding."—On Sunday week Prince Bismarck celebrated at Varzin his "silver wedding." Only a small number of near relations and old friends were present on the occasion, but every minute brought some testimony of the interest, gratitude, and honour with which the day was being remembered in all parts, and even beyond the bounds, of Germany. One hundred and ninety-two telegrams, and a still greater number of written congratulations, had been received up till the following day. Among them were messages from the Emperor, the Empress, the Crown Prince and Princess, and other members of the imperial family, from the King of Bavaria, from statesmen and generals, scholars and artists, corporations and societies, from high and low, old and young, known and unknown. Gifts and poems were also numerous. In the forenoon the family of the prince and the numerous guests attended church, and after service was over received under the old linden trees the felicitations of the pastors and office-bearers of the church.

The American Cincinnatus.—The *New York Herald* gives an account of a visit paid to Horace Greeley, in his "humble farmer home," Little Chappaqua, on the Haarlem Railroad, by about 250 of his friends and adherents. When the train stopped at Chappaqua the party "straggled out," and were surprised to find "no great reception, nor, for the matter of that, no great shakes of a village awaiting them." In a short time, however, "the vigorous form of the philosopher himself, with his broad white hat slammed on the back of his caput, his head up, and his gold spectacles sparkling in the sun, was discerned coming in his jerking trot down the hill to the station." Mr. Greeley was received with three cheers, and a procession was formed from the station to the house, where it arrived in safety, though in passing the hotel "some of the delegates sidled off for a drink." After inspecting the farm, the guests sat down to a luncheon spread in "the Evergreens," consisting of lobster salads, baked beans, potted pigeon, fish, fruit, vegetables, ice cream, lemonade, &c., all of which they were assured by a negro who acted as major domo, "had been growed on the farm." This rather startled the *Herald* reporter, who inquired as to the lobsters, and was informed by the negro that "dey growed in de brook." Mrs. Greeley, who is an invalid, being anxious to see some of the Southerners who had returned to the old Union, and were actually supporting her husband for the Presidency, came out of the grounds in a carriage. She was "cheerful and chatty," and insisted on having every ex-rebel on the ground introduced to her. To one of them she said, "I hope that I am a good Christian, but I hardly think I could forgive as much as you have forgiven." "Mrs. Greeley," responded the ex-rebel, "it is the day of jubilee, and we must all forgive as we hope to be forgiven." After luncheon Mr. Greeley called all to order, and said they would now have some speech-making, which they had accordingly. Mr. Greeley wisely confined himself to giving details respecting his farm and the reasons which led him to acquire possession of it. After some more speeches from the guests, Mr. Greeley, having consulted a magnificent gold chronometer presented to him some years ago by the printers of the *Tribune*, called out "Time," and the party rushed off to catch the train, having had a most successful expedition.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

Charity Organisation Society.—The Metropolitan District Committees of the Charity Organisation Society have dealt with 801 cases (exclusive of 420 non-resident applicants) during the four weeks ending July 27, 1872. 229 were dismissed, 251 were referred to legal and charitable agencies, and 321 were assisted by grants, loans, employment, &c.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES.

On Wednesday the weekly meeting of the London School Board was held in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall; Lord Lawrence presiding.

The most important business transacted at this meeting was the consideration given to the question as to the manner in which the board should pay the fees for children whose parents are unable to pay them. The act gives the board the power to remit the fees, and the board, by a resolution passed a very long time since, on the motion of Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., recognised this responsibility. A short time since a report was brought from the divisional committee of Greenwich recommending that the fees of children in certain cases should be paid by the board, and, on the motion of Miss Davies, one of the members for this division, the report was referred to the Bye-laws Committee.

Mr. Buxton now presented the report of the committee, recommending that the report of the Greenwich Divisional Committee should be adopted. The cases in which the fees were recommended to be remitted were minutely described.

Miss Davies said that the town of Greenwich would be a fit place to commence paying fees for the children, as it had plenty of accommodation for children; but in the Deptford division, where all these cases lived, there was not the requisite space for those whose parents were able to pay, and she asked the board whether it would be a wise course to adopt to pay the fees of children to the utter exclusion of the paying class.

Mr. E. H. Currie said the facts given in the report showed that the people should have their cases considered on the basis of the Poor-law, for it was evident, if their cases were true, that the board, by paying their school pence, would be giving them no adequate relief, and aiding a wife who had been deserted by her husband from going to the parish, would be to encourage husbands to leave their wives.

The Rev. Ll. Davies pointed out that the serious nature of the proposal now before the board was that, if carried, it would be the precedent for the future government of all other cases. Persons experienced in the administration of the Poor-law would at once see the dangers which surrounded such a proposition, and the inadequate character of the relief to be of any service. If a person was so poor that it was impossible for him or her to pay 1d. a week for a child's schooling, how could he or she find the child in food or clothing? If the board allowed that a person by making out a plea of poverty was entitled to have the fees paid, the number of applicants for free admission would be multiplied indefinitely, and effect a revolution in the whole policy of the late educational legislation, for it would bring about free education generally. He believed the compulsory powers could not be exercised without the payment of fees, and it was within his experience that where a payment was exacted the education was more valued than where it was free, and the attendance was better in the one case than in the other. He denied that there would be any hardship to any class by the non-remission of fees, and if there was that hardship was to be reckoned at the sum of one penny or twopence a week. Then to pay the fees would be to make the parent feel that education was not a matter which concerned him, while he should be made to feel that it was as much a matter of obligation to have his child sent to school as to feed and clothe him. The rev. speaker also warned the board that by the adoption of this resolution a course would be entered upon which would flood the ratepayers with expenses, and would cause a general disappointment to the constituencies.

The Rev. Mr. Waugh, speaking as a member for Greenwich, declared that it would be better to have the fees paid by the board than by guardians, as thereby the feelings of the people would be saved the sting of pauperism, and the cost would be the same to the ratepayers. He declared that by referring those who wanted the fees paid to the guardians, pauperism would be increased vastly, as the numbers who would need to have the fees paid were very great. On the ground that for a poor person who was earning only 6s. a week (three days a week at 2s. a day) to go to the guardians for the education aid would be demoralising, and that it would not be so felt on coming to the board, he asked that the motion should be accepted.

Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., said that the very arguments advanced by the last speaker were good reasons why the board should pause before adopting the motion. The board was asked to open the door to a principle of which thousands of others would at once desire to avail themselves. He could not see why relief given by the guardians could be demoralising and that given by the board otherwise, and it would be a dangerous line to draw to say that, while asking for food and clothing was something to be ashamed of, asking for money to pay for education was not. Then Mr. Waugh pleaded upon the point of the washerwoman's poverty, but to give aid whereby that poor woman would be encouraged to starve in a district on such bare wages was one of the worst things which could be done either in charity or anything else. Giving rates in aid of low wages the board should never allow, for it practically told the woman to stop where her labour brought her in only such a miserable pittance as 6s. a week, in place of carrying her labour to other parts where she could obtain better remuneration. The fact was the board must draw a distinction between paying the fees for a few urgent

cases, where the circumstances justified the payments temporarily, and such cases as these, which seemed to lay down that the board would remit the fees where the parents could make out that they were poor. To adopt the resolution before the board would be to rush into a course which would break down the system which the board was getting into work; it would increase the irregularity of attendance, and it would lead into dangers of which the board at present could have no conception. There was in the report no information as to whether the children had been to school before; but only such a case was made out to prove poverty—and this was done so completely that it could not be conceived how the people referred to could exist at all. (Hear.) He hoped that the Legislature next year would amend the act, and leave the guardians' work to be dealt with by guardians; but in the meantime it was the duty of the board not to open the door and invite people to become paupers to the extent of having their school pence paid for them.

Mr. Pierce supported the motion, and said the payment of the school pence would keep the people from the parish.

The Rev. Dr. Rigg followed on the side taken by Mr. Smith, and said that if parents could not pay a penny a week for a child they were paupers, and should go to the parish for relief.

Mrs. Anderson declared that even if she was sure the children for whom the board refused to pay the fees went to the workhouse she would still be disposed to let them. It would be better that the children should go to the workhouse than that the board should initiate a grand system of out-door relief, and without the experience and knowledge of the Poor-law authorities. As to the sums which had been mentioned as the amounts upon which these people lived, she, for one, did not believe that people could live upon those sums. For one thing, it was perfectly certain that the classes mentioned by Mr. Waugh got their food as well as the money, and had many other things besides. Then, too, any one who went into poor neighbourhoods could see that much money was spent by these people on wasteful luxuries—as, for instance, the children spent twice the school fees in "sweetstuff"—and the people should be taught not to be thus extravagant. It would be well for the board to hold its hand upon the cases, as it was impossible for the board to judge the truth or falsehood of those who came for this relief.

The Rev. J. Mee and Dr. Angus each said a few words upon the points before the board, and the subject was then taken up by Mr. Freeman, who, as experienced in the administration of the Poor-law, spoke of the immense amount of money which would be wasted in staff, and in having visitors analogous to relieving officers, if the board once entered upon a system of general remission of fees. He urged that it would be much better for all if people who were obliged to live at such a low condition as 6s. a week for a family would go to the workhouse, for children brought up there would be better able to take care of themselves in after life than the low vitality caused by poor living would allow them to do if they remained out.

Lord Lawrence supported the motion. He held that the board had given its sanction to the principle by ordering that all cases for the remission of fees should be reported to the board by the divisional committees.

On a division the motion was rejected, there being 8 for it and 15 against.

A Churchman's Opinion of Church Teaching.—At a meeting of diocesan inspectors, recently held at the National Society's office, the Rev. Jos. Faunthorpe delivered himself of the following pertinent remarks on the fallacy of religious teaching. He said, "The discussion had gone on all day on the assumption that the teachers in Church schools taught religion, whereas they did nothing of the sort. Out of a hundred of the best pupils in Church schools, ninety-nine of them would be unable to give any account of why they belonged to the Church of England. His own opinion was that the best pupils in Church schools became Methodist preachers. He had been informed by an inspector who had examined half the schools in the diocese of Rochester, that the religious teaching which the children received *was absolutely worthless!* They were taught a great deal about persons, places, and things mentioned in the Old Testament, but what they learnt had no more bearing upon religion than the history of Edward the Third, Peter the Great, or the Great Mogul. The other day he *prepared* his own servant for confirmation. She had been to one of the best schools, and knew her catechism perfectly so far as words went, yet when he asked who the Holy Ghost was, she answered, 'Pontius Pilate'! The fact was, the masters were not taught; and the clergy themselves, when they went into their schools, often did no more than disgust the masters."

Alexandra Park.—The committee recently appointed to acquire possession of Alexandra Palace and Park of 500 acres for the purpose of ensuring their dedication to pure recreation and public health, held their first meeting at the Mansion House on Tuesday under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor; and the Right Hon. he Lord Mayor, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, Bart., ir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., Major-General Cavenagh, and Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., were appointed a sub-committee to negotiate the purchase of the estate.

A WORKMAN'S TOWN.

On Saturday afternoon Lord Shaftesbury laid the first stone upon an estate at Wandsworth, called the Shaftesbury Park Estate, which has been acquired by the Artisans, Labourers, and General Dwellings Company (Limited), and is to be laid out as a workman's city in 1,200 dwellings. The company was formed in 1867, in consequence of the destruction of houses by railroads and other improvements, for the purpose of enabling working men to erect dwellings combining fitness and economy with the latest sanitary improvements, and to become themselves the owners of these dwellings in the course of a stated number of years by the payment of a small additional rent. On every estate purchased by the company a suitable space will be reserved as a recreation-ground, a co-operative store will be built for the especial benefit of the tenants, and public-houses will be absolutely forbidden.

The Shaftesbury Park Estate contains about forty acres, and is situated between the Wandsworth-road and the South-Western Railway, and about half-way between the Wandsworth-road and the Clapham Junction Stations; and a new station on the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway forms part of the architect's design for the future buildings, so as to afford to the inhabitants of the projected "city" all necessary facilities for going to and returning from their labour. The houses are to be thoroughly drained, constructed on sound principles and with good materials, and well supplied with water. Ample school accommodation will be provided, and a hall for lectures or public meetings will be built. As shown in the lithographed ground plan exhibited on Saturday, the recreation-ground is laid out too much after the fashion of a flower-garden; but this is an error which need not be actually carried out in practice, and against which Lord Shaftesbury eloquently protested in his speech. The houses are to be of three kinds, for the accommodation not only of artisans, but also of the "clerk class"; and each house is to form a distinct and separate tenancy, fitted with every sanitary and domestic convenience.

At the appointed time on Saturday a large concourse of people had assembled to witness the ceremony of laying the first or "memorial" stone. Lord Shaftesbury arrived punctually at the time appointed, and Mr. Walton, the chairman of the company, opened the proceedings by some introductory remarks, in the course of which he paid a warm tribute to Lord Shaftesbury's consistent endeavours to elevate the working classes in the scale of civilisation and humanity. His lordship then took the trowel and mallet, and laid the stone with the skill and self-possession of a finished workman. Having pronounced it truly laid, his lordship then addressed the assembly. He said:—

My good friends,—We have founded this day a workmen's city—("Hear," and applause)—and we have founded it upon the very best principles. We have founded it upon the great principle of self-help, and upon the great principle of independence. By independence, I mean without any other assistance than that which every man has a right to receive from his fellow-man—sympathy and kind aid—and that is what every man, either great or small, stands in need of from another. (Hear, hear.) You have founded the workmen's city upon your own efforts and by your own contributions, and for the great and wise purpose of advancing your social position and bodily health as well as your intellect and general prosperity. And most heartily do I say for myself—and I also say it in the names of hundreds and thousands of your fellow-men—that the blessing of Almighty God will rest upon the good work which you have inaugurated to-day. (Applause.) I like the principles you have laid down for your guidance. You have shown your wisdom in a moral point of view by excluding public-houses and the taproom; and you have done with them as the people did of old by the lepers—you have put them outside the camp. (Hear, hear.) You have, too, founded the buildings with a due regard to the necessary arrangements. There are schools for the children, and there will also be a library and reading-rooms for yourselves, and a club-room, where you will have the advantage of indulging in beneficial amusements. I hope, however, you will not forget the women, who are by far the best part of you, let me tell you. (Laughter.) In those intellectual amusements take care that your good wives and daughters are not excluded, for you will find there is no social progress without the aid of the female sex. If the woman floats, she floats like a cork, and drags the man after her. (Laughter and applause.) I am glad, then, to say that you have inaugurated this workman's city upon a sound and wise basis, and also that every man shall have his house to himself, so as to fulfil the national saying that an Englishman's house should be his castle, and to maintain the great principle that the working man should be the master of his house, and the happy head of a moral and industrious family. I would urge you most sincerely, as long as you have breath, to hold fast to the great social family relations of life. That will be the first step in the prosperity of your city, and it is the grand security of Empires. (Hear, hear.) I am delighted, too, to find that you have established a recreation ground in the centre of your city for the healthy enjoyment of your children; but I would strongly urge you not to devote this space to flower-beds and gravel-walks, but to leave it free for cricket, for football, and for all those manly and exhilarating games by which the healthy development of the body may be promoted and secured. The schools which will be established I hope will be turned to good account, and thus save your children from the temptation of the pothouse and "penny gaff." More mischief is done in London by children frequenting such places than many people are aware of. (Hear, hear.) You cannot do better than look to your children, and see them properly educated, because in early life lasting impressions are made. A child, eight years of age, will retain early impressions which will never, while life lasts, be wholly effaced. A good, tender, pious mother will make impressions on her child which may for a time leave it in manhood, but which will sooner or later return. (Hear, hear.)

His lordship then alluded to the impression created by the culture of flowers and window-gardening, and then passed on to picture the wretched and ill-ventilated homes of some of those who were compelled to dwell in the midst of the metropolis. He said:—

Imagine a young man, about twenty years of age, in the prime of life, coming up from the country to seek work in London. He may obtain, perhaps, as much as 35s. per week. As a matter of necessity he takes, as it were, the first place he can get. The place is ill drained and badly ventilated. He lives, perhaps, over a pestilential stream, and in a few months he is numbered with the dead, and his wife and family come upon the parish for assistance. (Hear.) There is nothing so economical as humanity. Whatever it may cost at the outset, good air, good water, and no overcrowding in close noisome rooms, will be found the most economical and best means of developing the physical and moral energies which God has given to you. The domiciliary condition of the people involves health, comfort, and happiness. It involves also contentment, and people who are contented always give a Government less trouble than those who are not. When men are contented they become excessively reasonable, and employer and employed find that their interests are identical. They must hold together, and by united action give force to progress. I should like then to see, from the Queen upon the Throne to the lowest in the land, one feeling of united sympathy of action, and one and all give "a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull all together." (Applause.) I can only say that I have been delighted beyond measure at what I have seen to-day. For more than thirty years I have been engaged in advocating improvement in the domiciliary condition of the people; but it is not by charitable means that the work can be effected. It must be done by the exertion of your own hearts and hands. You must say, "We are Christians, and will live like men." (Applause.) I trust that this will be the commencement of a great work destined for the advancement of social position of the people.

A vote of thanks to Lord Shaftesbury was carried by acclamation. His lordship then took his departure, and the assembly dispersed to inspect the estate and to partake of refreshments in a marquee provided for the purpose.

SOLAR DISTURBANCE.

(From the *Spectator*.)

It will not be unknown to our readers that astronomers no longer confine their attention to the actual aspect of the solar orb. By a contrivance which need not be here described, the astronomer can tell what is going on in a certain gaseous envelope surrounding the sun, which to ordinary telescopic research is altogether invisible, except during eclipses. This envelope, some four or five thousand miles deep, is called the chromosphere (by purists, the chromatosphere), and consists in the main of glowing hydrogen, but in its lowest strata contains the glowing vapours of sodium, magnesium, and many other elements. These, however, are ordinarily so low down that they can scarcely be recognised under the ordinary conditions of the new method of observation, except here and there round the sun's disc. It is as though our earth were examined by some highly ingenious astronomers in Venus or Mercury, who could recognise at times the vapour of water in our air, where it rose pretty freely and to a considerable height above oceans, but not over the continents, because less vapour there arose into the air. Only, in the sun's case the vapours are not, like the vapour of water on earth, at a cool and pleasant temperature, but are such vapours as rise above the molten surface of metal in our furnaces. They are at so high a temperature that a wind of such vapour, blowing, as such winds do, over the surface of the sun, would be competent to reduce our earth in a few seconds to vapour likewise.

Now certain Italian spectroscopists—Respighi, Secchi, Tacchini, and others—have set themselves the task of keeping a continual watch upon the solar chromatosphere. They draw pictures of it, and of the mighty coloured prominences which are from time to time upreared out of, or through, the chromatospheric envelope. They note the vapours which are present, as well as what can be learned of the heat at which these vapours exist, their pressure, their rate of motion, and other like circumstances. It was while engaged in some of the more difficult and delicate of these tasks that Tacchini noticed the strange occurrence now to be described.

"I have observed a phenomenon," he says, "which is altogether new in the whole series of my observations. Since May 6, I had found certain regions in the sun remarkable for the presence of magnesium." Some of these extended half-way round the sun. This state of things continued, the extension of these magnesium regions gradually growing greater, until at length, "on June 18," says Tacchini, "I was able to recognise the presence of magnesium quite round the sun—that is to say, the chromatosphere was completely invaded by the vapour of this metal. This *ebullition* was accompanied by an absence of the coloured prominences, while, on the contrary, the flames of the chromatosphere were very marked and brilliant. *It seemed to me as though I could see the surface of our great source of light renewing itself.*" While this was going on Tacchini noticed (as had frequently happened before in his experience) that the bright streaks on the sun which are called *faculæ*

were particularly brilliant close to those parts of the edge of the disc where the flames of the chromatosphere were most splendid and characteristic. The granulations, also, which the astronomer can recognise all over the sun, when a large telescope is employed, were unusually distinct.

Tacchini concludes (and the inference seems just) that there had not been a number of local eruptions of magnesium vapour, but complete expulsions. Only we would venture to substitute for the word "expulsion" the expression "outflow" or "uprising," since it may well be that these vapours rise by a quiet process resembling evaporation, and not by any action so violent that it could properly be regarded as expulsive.

In whatever way, however, the glowing vapour of magnesium thus streamed into the envelope of the sun, it would seem that the aspect of our luminary was modified by the process,—not indeed in a very striking manner, or our observers in England would have noticed the change, yet appreciably. "More than one person," says Tacchini, "has told me that the light of the sun has not at present its ordinary aspect; and at the Observatory we have judged that we might make the same remark. The change must be attributed to magnesium."

It is impossible to consider attentively the remarkable occurrence recorded by Tacchini without being struck by the evidence which it affords of solar mutability. We know that during thousands of years our sun has poured forth his light and heat upon the worlds which circle around him, and that there has been no marked intermittence of the supply. We hear, indeed, of occasions when the sun has been darkened for a while; and we have abundant reasons for believing that he has at times been so spot-covered that there has been a notable diminution of the supply of light and heat for several days together. Yet we have had no reasons for anticipating that our sun might permanently lose so much of his heat and lustre that the inhabitants of earth would suffer. Tacchini's observation reminds us, however, that processes are at work upon the sun which admit of being checked or increased, interrupted altogether or exaggerated so violently (as it were), that the whole aspect of the sun, his condition as the fire and lamp of the planetary system, may be seriously affected.

DR. LIVINGSTONE.

Dr. Waller sends to the *Times* some extracts from a long letter written to him by Dr. Livingstone, which was forwarded from Paris by Mr. H. M. Stanley. Part of it was written at Ujiji in November, 1871, and two postscripts bring it down to Unyanyembe, March 8, 1872. Dr. Waller thinks Dr. Livingstone hardly sees what has been already the direct result of his heroic exertions and of his outspoken declarations against the appalling slave-trade going on in the interior, and which is organised at Zanzibar. He is sawing the branch on which he is sitting, and cutting himself off. When the next mail gets to the Zanzibar*barians* they will feel, as they read his letters, that they must stop him (or his supplies) or he will stop them, and it behoves English spirit to rally round the champion of abolition. The following are portions of the extracts from the letters:—

Ujiji, November, 1871.

My dear Waller,—I received two letters from you in February last, and answered them; but in September I found them in the spot they were left. The post-office authorities in Manyema had neglected to furnish the postman with velocipedes, and as I never saw these machines I could not urge their adoption, and brought the answers to Ujiji myself. They are out of date now, and I only refer to them to show you that I did not follow the plan which you and so many others adopted of sitting speculating on where I should come out, instead of writing like Christians to cheer and help me while I was in. If I had ever been known to swerve from a task I took in hand you would be excusable.

Speaking of the Nile, he says:—

The watershed is at least 700 miles long, and I crossed and recrossed it, went backwards and forwards and sideways in a route I shall never attempt to depict, feeling my way and every step of the way, and was generally groping in the dark, for nobody cared where the rivers ran; the most intelligent traders thought that they all ran into Tanganyika, some that they went to the west coast, or elsewhere. When at last light dawned on the ancient problem, I stuck to my task like a Briton. I did not go down to Tanganyika, because the Ujijians were eager to rob me as they did Speke and Burton, and I had but a few goods left of the stock which was plundered in coming to depot. I therefore preferred to expend them on the central line of drainage, Webb's Lualaba, and a tough job it was. By some strange hallucination, our friend Kirk placed some 500*l.* of goods in the hands of a drunken half-caste tailor as leader, who, after trading with soap, opium, brandy, and gunpowder for sixteen months, refused to go beyond Ujiji, and there sold off all for slaves and ivory for himself, and I returned to find myself destitute.

Writing from Unyanyembe, February 19, 1872, he says:—

To avoid being fleeced by certain tribes near Ujiji, Mr. Stanley and I went up Tanganyika or south, then struck through a beautiful mountainous country for ten days without a path going east; then reached part of my friend's previous route, which he had correctly put down, and so by his guidance moved on to Unyanyembe. Making it a march of fifty-four days, and much of it without path and raining almost every day as if it would never tire, we came here yesterday (February 18, 1872).

Speaking of Mr. Young, who cleared up the story of his murder, he says:—

I have just seen Young's book; he did his work right nobly and well, and I feel grateful to him, as I mention in a despatch of thanks to the Foreign Office. . . . The Manyema slave-trade is as bad as the Portuguese, but the country is lavish of food, and fewer die of starvation. Here the Banian British subjects are the great slavers by their money. The wretches dare not kill a gnat or a flea, yet it is no overdrawn statement to say that by their money and means they are the worst cannibals in all Africa. Kirk did not know this, or he would not have employed the chief slave-trader Luddha (since dead) to aid me by sending slaves, who all believe firmly that they are not to follow, but force me back. I shall not spare the villains who have caused me the loss of two years in time, over 1,800 miles of tramp, and I do not know how much money; but all will come right at last.—DAVID LIVINGSTONE.

The President of the Royal Geographical Society, writing to the *Times*, explains that a special meeting of the Royal Geographical Society has not been convened, agreeably to the intention announced from the chair of the society at the last ordinary meeting on the 24th of June, because up to the present time not a single letter from the Doctor has reached the Geographical Rooms in Savile-row either direct or through the Foreign Office. It is true that a batch of despatches from Dr. Kirk, enclosing copies of letters addressed to him by Livingstone, have been received at the Foreign Office, but these letters are entirely devoid of geographical information, and do not even contain those details of the Doctor's personal proceedings which might have made them of interest to the public. Sir Henry Rawlinson adds:—

Of more importance to us are the fragmentary geographical notices which appear in the letters addressed by Dr. Livingstone to the editor of the *New York Herald*. These notices are too vague in their present shape to admit of useful geographical discussion. If any more definite information is contained in the letters and diaries which are still with Mr. Stanley in Paris, an opportunity will occur for communicating the intelligence to the public through the geographical section of the British Association, which holds its annual meeting at Brighton in the course of the next fortnight. At present I will only say that the theory ascribed to Dr. Livingstone, of a connection between the great line of drainage which he has traced from 12 deg. south of the Bahr-el-Ghazal, or Petherick's Western Nile, is simply impossible, since the German traveller, Schweinfurth, has visited the watershed from which the sources of Bahr-el-Ghazal descend, and which is very little south of the parallel of Gondokoro. The river system which Dr. Livingstone is said to have followed up to a point in about lat. 4 deg. south and long. 25 deg. east, must either, it would seem, debouche into the south-west corner of Baker's Lake, or it must be the upper course of the Congo. At any rate, so far from the Nile question being settled, as was so confidently announced to us by telegraph, the solution of the problem is more uncertain than ever.

Sir Henry thinks it may be as well to remind the public that the stores which were taken possession of by Dr. Livingstone at Unyanyembé in February last, which are estimated at three years' consumption, are part of the supplies which were purchased by Dr. Kirk out of the Government grant of 1,000*l.*, and forwarded by him into the interior; while the party of sixty men recently despatched to the Doctor's aid by Mr. Stanley, from Bagamoyo, were also paid, armed, and equipped by Mr. Oswell Livingstone, who was at that time in charge of the Search and Relief Expedition.

The *Glasgow Herald* is authorised to state that the diary of Dr. Livingstone, forwarded to Miss Livingstone, now in Iceland, will in no case be published unless intelligence of the great explorer's death reaches England. The diary was sealed by the Doctor himself, with instructions to this effect.

Yesterday several despatches received at the Foreign Office from Dr. Livingstone were published. They comprise six letters, the first addressed to Lord Stanley, being dated the 15th of November, 1870, and the last directed to Earl Granville, and dated Unyanyembe, near the Kazeh of Speke, February 20, 1872. A considerable portion of the letters are devoted to interesting descriptions of the features of the country penetrated by the explorer, and of the difficulties attendant upon travel through them. The following passages summarise the work already accomplished by the writer:—"I have ascertained that the watershed of the Nile is a broad upland between 10 deg. and 12 deg. south latitude, and from 4,000 to 5,000 feet above the level of the sea. Mountains stand on it at various points, which, though not apparently very high, are between 6,000 and 7,000 feet of actual altitude. The watershed is over 700 miles in length from west to east. The springs that rise on it are almost innumerable—that is, it would take a large part of a man's life to count them. A bird's-eye view of some parts of the watershed would resemble the frost vegetation on window panes. They all begin in an ooze at the head of a slightly depressed valley. A few hundred yards down, the quantity of water from oozing earthen sponge forms a brisk perennial burn or brook a few feet broad, and deep enough to require a bridge. These are the ultimate or primary sources of the great rivers that flow to the north in the Great Nile valley. The primaries unite and form streams in general larger than the Isis at Oxford or Avon at Hamilton, and may be called secondary sources. They never dry, but unite again into four large lines of drainage, the head waters or mains of the river of Egypt. These four are each called by the natives Lualaba, which, if not too pedantic, may be spoken of as lacustrine rivers, extant specimens of those which, in prehistoric times, abounded in Africa, and which in the south are still called by Bechuanas 'Melapo,' in the north, by Arabs, 'Wadys'; both words meaning the same thing—river-bed in which no water ever now flows. Two of the four great rivers mentioned fall into the central Lualaba, or Webb's Lake River, and then we have but two main lines of drainage as depicted nearly by Ptolemy. The 'White Nile' of Speke, less by a full half than the Shire out of Nyassa—for it is only eighty or ninety yards broad—can scarcely be named in comparison with the central or Webb's Lualaba, of from 2,000 to 6,000 yards, in relation to the phenomena of the Nile. The structure and economy of the watershed answer very much the same end as the great lacustrine rivers, but I cannot at present copy a lost despatch which explained that. The mountains on the watershed are probably what Ptolemy, for reasons now unknown, called the Mountains of the Moon. From their bases I found that the springs of the Nile do unquestionably arise. This is just what Ptolemy put down down, and is true geography. We must accept the fountains; and nobody but Philistines will reject the mountains, though we cannot conjecture the reason for the name. Mounts Kenia and Kilimanjaro are said to be snowcapped, but they are so far from the sources and send no water to any part of the Nile. They could never have been meant by the correct ancient explorers, from whom Ptolemy and his predecessors gleaned their true geography, so different from the trash that passes current in modern times. Before leaving the subject of the watershed, I may add that I know about 600 miles of it, but am not yet satisfied, for, unfortunately, the seventh hundred is the most interesting of the whole. I have a very strong impression that in the last hundred miles the fountains of the Nile mentioned to 'Herodotus by the Secretary of Minerva in the city of Sais do arise, not like all the rest from oozing earthen sponges, but from an earthen mound, and half the water flows northward to Egypt, the other half south to Inner Ethiopia. These fountains, at no great distance off, become large rivers, though at the mound they are not more than ten miles apart. That is, one fountain rising on the north-east of the mound becomes Bartle Frere's Lualaba, and it flows into one of the lakes proper, Kamolondo, of the central line of drainage; Webb's Lualaba, the second fountain rising on the north-west, becomes (Sir Paraffin) Young's Lualaba, which, passing through Lake Lincoln and becoming Loeki, or Lomame, and joining the central line too, goes north to Egypt. The third fountain on the south-west, Palmerston's, becomes the Liambia or Upper Zambesi; while the fourth, Oswell's fountain, becomes the Kafue, and falls into Zambesi in Inner Ethiopia.

Dr. Livingstone is now supplied with stores ample enough to make a feasible finish-up of the geographical portion of his mission.

In speaking of his future work the Doctor says:—"I know about 600 miles of the watershed pretty fairly. I turn to the seventh hundred miles with pleasure and hope. I want no companion now, though discovery means hard work."

Dr. Livingstone sends home his journal to his daughter Agnes. "It is," he says, "one of Letts's large folio diaries, and is full except a few (five) pages reserved for altitudes which I cannot at present copy. It contains a few private memoranda for my family alone, and I adopt this course in order to secure it from risk in my concluding trip."

Mr. Stanley has arrived in London from Paris. He is much improved in health.

MISSIONARY PAPERS.

No. VII.

The recently published report on missions connected with the *Free Church of Scotland* is interesting in most of its details. We learn that the income for the year, for general purposes, is 16,356*l.* This is the sum contributed at home. If to this be added sums raised abroad, school fees, Government grants in aid, &c., the whole amount is 33,931*l.* In addition, there is the Mission Building Fund of about 30,000*l.* The Widows and Orphans' fund is small, and we are surprised to find that only 55*l.* 16s. has been subscribed to it during the past year.

The work of the Ladies' Society for female education has been one of steady progress during the year, with some tokens of success in its higher aims, and much of encouragement and hopefulness in all respects for the future. In the boarding schools in India there are 257 girls receiving Christian training. There are also 1,453 girls in the day-schools at the various stations. In Calcutta, zenana work is prosecuted with encouraging success, while at other stations native Bible-women, female teachers, and others find ready access for the instruction of native women.

This work of native female education is also successfully carried on in South Africa, where the society has a seminary containing thirty-six boarders, and other schools with an attendance of 641 girls. The income absorbed by this section of mission work is 3,272*l.* This is exclusive of the value of work sent for sale to mission stations on behalf of female schools.

Very important, too, is the work of the Christian Vernacular Education Society, in which Dr. Wilson, of Bombay, has taken so much interest. The aim of the society is to Christianize the wretched[illegible] digenous schools that are spread everywhere in large cities of India. Nearly 7,000 children enj the benefits of the institution, and of these mor than 2,000 are under the care of missionaries of the Free Church.

The society now occupies eighty-six stations, giving employment to 232 agents of all grades. The native churches number 1,899 communicants, and 1,807 baptized adherents, not communicants. During the year 117 adults have been baptized or admitted on profession, and there are 297 candidates for baptism or full communion. The children under istruction number 9,282. Well may the Assembly in their annual deliverance "express their gratitude to the Great Head of the Church for the blessing which He continues to vouchsafe to the labours of their missionaries, alike in India and in Africa; while at the same time they long for such an outpouring of the Holy Spirit as may lead to a more widespread awakening and reception of the truth as it is in Jesus."

The attention of the friends of the *London Missionary Society* is again directed to the work done by native evangelists in the South Seas. And properly so, for, as Dr. Mullens observes, that work has been carried on with zeal, self-sacrifice, and with the single motive of serving Christ and seeking the salvation of men. The English missionaries in those regions have always looked upon the native work as "an eminent blessing from above." A few incidents are given in proof of this estimate: we summarise them briefly.

In 1821 the first efforts were put forth for the evangelising of the island of Rurutu. The heroic John Williams was the agent. The island of Rurutu is about 350 miles from Raiatea, where John Williams then was, and, at the time of which we speak, it was desolated by a fearful epidemic. The natives looked upon all such calamities as inflictions of some angry deities. Two of their chiefs built two large canoes, and collecting as many people as they could, they committed themselves to the winds and waves in search of some happier isle. They were overtaken by storms, and, after much suffering and loss of life, Providence directed the course of one of the canoes to the Society Islands, and among them to Raiatea. On landing they were greatly surprised at the civilised dress, habits, and pursuits of the natives, all which they soon learnt also to admire. The chief was very soon convinced of the superiority of the Christian religion, and placed himself and his people under instruction. They were with the Christian community very little more than three months, yet, Anura, one of the chiefs, and several others, had learned to read, spell, and write correctly. The captain of a friendly vessel having offered to convey Anura and his people back to their island, he objected to go "without a light in his hand," a living teacher who could instruct him and his friends. The native Christians were collected together and told of this, when two of the best men, deacons of the church, volunteered to go. Every member of the church brought something to them as a testimonial of affection. The missionaries sent a boat of their own, with a native crew, to ascertain what reception was given to the teachers. After an absence of little more than a month, the boat returned laden with the trophies of victory, the gods of the heathen taken in this bloodless war. As the missionaries read the letters which had been sent, and saw with their own eyes the rejected idols, "they felt a measure of the sacred joy which the angels of God will experience when they shout, 'The kingdoms of this world are becoming the kingdoms of our God and His Christ!'" Fifteen months later, Mr. Ellis and two other missionaries visited the island, and were surprised at the advance which had been made. They report—"Not a vestige of idolatry was to be seen—not a god was to be found in the island. So great a change effected in so short a time, is almost beyond credibility; but we witnessed it with our own eyes, and exclaimed, 'What hath God wrought!'"

Mr. Williams was greatly moved by these events, and he conceived the idea of winning for the Gospel the whole of Polynesia. Hence his next step was towards the Hervey Islands, whither he went with Mr. and Mrs. Threlkeld. They reached the island of Aitutaki, where they found savage life in perfection. They invited the chief Tamatsa on board the vessel, and he came, accompanied by many of his people. The chief was informed of what had taken place among the Tahitian and Society Islands with respect to the overthrow of idolatry; that the gods had been burned, and that Mr. Williams had brought two teachers to instruct him and his people in the word and knowledge of the true God, that they too might be induced to abandon and destroy their idols as others had done. The teachers began their work, and soon were joined by two more. The progress, however, was gradual, and the native converts were not free from persecution. Within less than two years all had a changed aspect. A large place of worship had been built and a teachers' house; houses also for the inhabitants were in course of erection, and these were supplied with many of the comforts of Christian civilisation. Mr. Williams wrote:—"Eighteen months ago these people were the wildest I had ever witnessed; now they have become mild and docile, diligent and kind."

The same story of evangelisation is substantially repeated in connection with the islands of *Atiu*, *Mitiaro*, and *Mauke*, in all of which the work was commenced in 1822. In all these the progress of the good work was remarkably rapid, and within a few months the idols had been renounced, chapels had been built, and the people were everywhere emerging out of their savagery.

The story of *Raratonga*, so well known to our readers, is simply marvellous. Mr. Bourne, writing about it two years after it was first visited by Mr. Williams, says:—"Two years ago the Raratongans did not know that there was such good news as the Gospel. And now I scruple not to say that their attention to the means of grace, their regard to family and private prayer, equals whatever has been witnessed at Tahiti and the neighbouring islands." This result was all the more cheering, as it was connected with the labours of two *native* teachers. In Tahiti two missionaries had laboured for fifteen years before the least fruit appeared. In Raratonga the great work recorded was accomplished within two short years.

But really it is the same tale that has to be told over and over again, of Mangaia, Fiji, Tonga, the New Hebrides, Samoa, Tanna, Aneiteum, the Loyalty Islands, &c. Island after island—we may almost say, group after group—has been won to Christ. Members of the churches are self-supporting, and this in no niggardly measure, whilst in them all there is manifested great earnestness and liberality in connection with the evangelisation of "the regions beyond."

From the West Coast of Berbice we learn that a new and commodious chapel has recently been erected and set apart for public worship. A church of about 120 members are proposing to call for a native pastor.

The most recent information from several of the fields occupied by the *Baptist Missionary Society* is of a very encouraging character. The Rev. C. B. Lewis, of Calcutta, has recently paid a visit of inspection to the mission in Ceylon on behalf of the committee. He reports the completion of the translation of the Old Testament in Singalese, by Mr. Carter. It is now being very carefully revised for the press. All the missionary brethren concur in praising it very highly, and it is hoped that it will be adopted by most of the societies. Mr. Carter earnestly pleads for help, in order that he may be more free to put his great mastery of the language to use in preaching the Gospel in parts of Ceylon never yet visited by any missionary.

At the Gonawella Station, Mr. Waldock is doing a good work, and a handsome chapel, to replace the old one, is in course of erection. The building is to cost about 200*l.*, and a large share of the money has been contributed by the native Christians. They do not yet support their native pastor, but their contributions to the mission are very encouraging. Mr. Lewis says of the whole mission: "Looking back upon the advance made in the last twenty-four years, as I could in some measure do, the progress was very perceptible to me in the contrast between then and now; but I believe also that no such comparison is needed to demonstrate the fact. Many most interesting incidents prove the existence of life amongst our native brethren, and testify to the power which the Gospel exerts amongst those who have been shut up in the night of Buddhism."

To those of our readers who are familiar with the early history of the Jamaica mission, the name of the Rev. J. M. Phillippo will be very familiar. This gentleman has recently resigned the pastorate of the church at Spanish Town which he has held for close upon fifty years. It is long since the last of the men with whom he was first associated was called to his rest; but Mr. Phillippo has been spared to labour on till now. He retires, with all the honours of a useful and devoted life thick upon him.

The courtesy of his manners, the fervour of his piety, and his life-long consecration to the welfare of the people of Jamaica, well deserve the affection and veneration with which our friend is regarded both at home and abroad. Though retiring from the laborious duties of the Spanish Town Church, he will nevertheless give what energy remains to him to the advancement of Christ's Kingdom in connection with one or two of the smaller congregations in the vicinity.

From Bengal we learn that, among other encouraging results of Christian work, the native converts are beginning to take an active part in preaching the Gospel among their countrymen. This is done *gratuitously* as well as spontaneously. Two of these preachers thus speak of their work:—"We had gone out to preach before, but never did we experience such joy as on this occasion; never did we return home in such grateful minds. On the contrary, it caused us sadness that our engagements compelled our return. One cause of our joy was this—that we spent our whole time in our Master's work; and by always remaining with our dear unbelieving fellow-countrymen we never had a lack of hearers. As we had opportunity, we told our benighted fellow-countrymen the story of our Lord's love. From sunrise to sunset we found hearers, and with great joy told how our Heavenly Father saves always. It is true that we did not spend the whole day in preaching in the street; but we were always surrounded by the unbelieving, and in conversation and hymns we told them how sinners can escape the fire of hell. Another cause of joy was this—that we had not to be anxious what we should eat, or where we should stay, but left all these matters in the hands of Him on whose work we had gone forth. And with gratitude do we confess that He supplied all our temporal wants."

Of late there has been much uncertainty in the minds of many friends of the society as to the policy recently inaugurated by the committee concerning the employment of native agency. Their resolutions are as follows:—

1. In view, then, of the testimonies before them, and the character and qualifications of the native agents employed by the society, and considering that it is most advisable for the interests of the Gospel in India, that native agents should be called out by the native Christian community for the work, and be supported by them, your special committee are of opinion that it is expedient, as soon as practicable, to cease to support the present native agents by the funds of the society.

2. That the mode and time of the dismissal of any of the present staff of native agents be referred to the consideration of the missionary conferences. Generous consideration, however, should be shown to all those who may not be deemed suitable for further employment, and especially to those who, by reason of age, infirmity, length of service, or any other cause, may have special claim upon the society's regard.

3. In case the society should find it necessary or desirable to employ native preachers, the committee should take effective measures to secure a class of men in all respects qualified for the work of evangelisation.

4. For the future, no native Christian should be added to the staff of preachers employed by the society who has not previously taken part in, and shown zeal and aptitude for, some kind of evangelistic work.

5. That the committee desire the conferences to undertake the following duties:—

a. To examine the present staff of native agents of the society for the purpose of dismissing any who may be inefficient, and retaining only the services of those who may be found suitable for evangelistic work, in accordance with the general principles laid down in this report.

b. To examine candidates for employment as native agents.

c. To fix the amount of salary to be given to each native agent; the locality in which it may be deemed desirable that he should labour; and to determine, if necessary, his connection with the society.

d. To provide for the formation and instruction, in vernacular and Anglo-vernacular, of a class of native candidates for missionary or pastoral service at Serampore College, for Bengal; and at such place in the North-West as may be hereafter determined, under such regulations for the reception and examination of the students as may be necessary.

The above resolutions are guarded by the following statement:—"The committee regard the existence of a qualified native agency as an object of paramount importance, and they have striven, both in the East and in the West, to secure it. At the same time they endeavoured in every way to stimulate the native churches to an earnest effort to spread the Gospel among their countrymen."

Among other additions to the mission staff of this society, we notice the name of Professor Hormazdji Pestonji, Professor of Mahratti and Gujeratti at University College. He was the first convert of Dr. Wilson, of Bombay; was ordained a missionary among the Presbyterians, and was one of the first translators of Scripture in Mahratti. He is now a Baptist, and having offered his services to the society, they have been cordially accepted. His sphere of labour will be Poonah.

THE NATIVE PRESS OF INDIA.—Our readers are aware that for some time past, the Anglo-Indian press, or at least a portion of it, has charged the national press with disloyalty. On this point it is refreshing to read what the *Bengal Christian Herald* says:—

Our Government may rest assured that there is no disloyalty in the hearts of our countrymen in general, and especially of the Christian portion of them, who are taught by the word of inspiration to be subject to the "powers that be," and who therefore make it a point of their religion to give due honour and allegiance to the power which they believe to be ordained of God. The natives of this country feel themselves quite blessed under the British Government, which, notwithstanding all its defects—and what government is there which has not its shortcomings?—has been a great relief to the country, from centuries of misrule and oppression. Our rulers may also rest assured that Bengalees in particular are friends to British rule, for they owe their present advancement entirely to the British supremacy. They can boast of no glorious past, but they are what they are owing to the favour of their rulers. If, therefore, there is any one who is grateful and friendly to the British in India, it is the Bengalee.

JAPAN.—The attitude of this country towards Christianity, till very recently so threatening, has unexpectedly undergone a marvellous change. Religious liberty and toleration have been proclaimed throughout the empire, and a proof that this is true is found in the fact that an American professor in the Japanese college at Shidz-u-oo-ka has opened a class for the study of the evidences of Christianity, and also publicly teaches a Bible-class on the Lord's Day. An American Baptist missionary from Yokohama is at present in this country seeking to create interest in that field among our Baptist friends. He has, partly with their aid, translated the New Testament in Japanese, and he wants to establish a printing press, which shall be at the service and under the direction of missionaries of various denominations. In America, Mr. Goble has had offers from not a few young men in the colleges for mission work in Japan. We have no doubt that here, as well as in America, there will be a ready response to the appeals made.

THE COTTON TRADE.—At the quarterly meeting of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, Mr. Hugh Mason drew a gloomy picture of the state of the cotton trade. The advance in the price of coal and of other materials used in machine-making and manufacturing establishments, combined with the increased cost of labour, and the unsettled condition of the workpeople generally, cause intense anxiety and perplexity to those who have invested their capital in the cotton trade. It behoves, he said, every man in the trade for the next six months to be exceedingly cautious.

TO the MEMBERS of the BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

A vacancy having occurred in the Board of Direction, through the lamented death of Mr. J. B. Howat, I beg to present myself as a Candidate for the vacant seat, having been induced to do so, not merely by my personal interest in the Company, but by the urgent solicitation of very many of the most influential members, both in town and country.

Having been assured with the Company from its very commencement, and having, by my personal recommendation, brought many of its present members into connection with it, I have viewed its increasing prosperity with no ordinary satisfaction, and shall, if elected, enter upon the Direction of its affairs with a special interest and energy.

My desire is to promote Life Assurance among all classes of the community, and believing, as I do, that the principle of Mutual Life Assurance upon which the Company is based, is sound and capable of much more extensive application, it will be my aim, if elected, to augment the numbers of the assured, and thus extend the benefits of Life Assurance.

Should you do me the honour of electing me as one of your Directors, I feel confident, from my long experience in Life Assurance business, as well as from my general knowledge of commercial and monetary matters, that I shall be able to advance the interests of the Members.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN EDWARD TRESIDDER.

6, Paragon, New Kent-road, S.E.
August 7, 1872.

66, AVENUE ROAD, LONDON, N.W.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1872.

SUMMARY.

ON Saturday next Parliament will, it is expected, be prorogued by Royal Commission. Even now, however, the pressure of business is great. But the mass of members of both Houses having already left town, Ministers and their officials have almost all their own way. The supply votes having been finished at the special sitting on Saturday, the Appropriation Bill has been brought in. The Public Health Bill and the Army Localisation Bill are passing through the Upper House almost without remark, and their lordships have, with slight alterations, accepted the Scotch Education Bill in the final shape given to it by the Commons.

The Intoxicating Liquors (Licensing) Bill is the last measure of importance still under discussion. During the progress of the bill through committee Sir W. Lawson endeavoured to introduce the principle he represents by proposing that the ratepayers may, by a vote, permit or withhold a licence, but he was defeated by a large majority. On Monday a most important change was effected in the bill. Sir Selwin-Ibbetson, in the interests of the licensed victuallers, and by aid of the advocates of the Permissive Bill, carried by 95 to 65, a clause for placing grocers, who sell liquors to be drunk off the premises, on the same footing as publicans. The amendment subjects such tradesmen to all the provisions of the bill by confining exemption to dealers "whose premises are exclusively used for the sale of intoxicating liquors"—in other words, to wine and spirit merchants. This unexpected change in the scope of the bill will be reconsidered and perhaps reversed on the bringing up of the report to-day.

Though the report of the resignation of the Lord Chancellor is denied, there is little doubt that his retirement from the Government, owing to infirm eyesight, is only a question of time, and that on the conclusion of the Geneva arbitration, Lord Hatherley will retire, and be succeeded by Sir Roundell Palmer. Such a change will be no advantage to the Liberal cause. Lord Hatherley is a staunch reformer of the old school, whose consistency and simplicity and transparent honesty have ennobled his high office and given lustre to the Government. His successor is Conservative rather than Liberal in his views, and Sir Roundell will probably be far more anxious to serve the interests of the Established Church than to co-operate in originating measures of general utility, or in advancing the cause of religious equality.

Monday was one of the bank holidays appointed by Act of Parliament. Great preparations had been made for its general observance, and the railways out of London offered the most tempting facilities for country and seaside excursions. But the day was, alas! wet and gloomy. A steady downpour kept people at home, or obliged them to be satisfied with the attractions of the Crystal Palace, the British Museum, and other popular exhibitions; and, in many instances we fear, drove them to the public-house.

The London School Board has had an interesting discussion on the question of remitting the fees of the children of indigent parents. Though the Board long since accepted that principle when it passed the celebrated resolution of Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., it has never yet been applied—so grave are the consequences of the policy, as we long since pointed out. The question was, however, raised in a practical form last Wednesday, when the recommendation of the divisional committee of Greenwich urging the payment of fees in certain specified cases, was submitted. After a long discussion, it was decided, by a majority 15 to 8, not to remit the fees in the five cases reported. The argument was nearly all on one side, and none were more strenuous in opposing the remission than the hon. member for Westminster. "The Board," said Mr. Smith, M.P., "must draw a distinction between paying the fees for a few urgent cases, where the circumstances justified the payments temporarily, and such cases as these, which seemed to lay down that the Board would remit the fees where the parents could make out that they were poor. To adopt the resolution before the Board would be to rush into a course which would break down the system which the Board was getting into work; it would increase the irregularity of attendance, and it would lead into dangers of which the Board at present could have no conception." It is not then mere Nonconformist jealousy which thwarts this arrangement, but serious economical considerations. But for the agitation against the 25th Clause, it is doubtful whether this serious danger would have been averted.

The chief item of continental news is the adjournment of the French National Assembly, after the acceptance of all the financial proposals of the Government, and the retirement of M. Thiers to Trouville for a few weeks of well-earned rest. The majority are satisfied with the President's latest declaration to the effect that everything should be subordinated to the one object of freeing the national territory.—The municipal elections in Italy, unexpectedly exciting in consequence of the action of the clerical party, have resulted generally in the return of Liberal candidates. In Rome, particularly the supporters of the Pope were signally defeated, and the city was in consequence illuminated. This is a heavy blow to the Vatican.—The Geneva Court of Arbitration is still sitting, and its decisions will probably be formed in a few weeks. It is assumed, though without official authority, that the verdict of the arbitrators will be substantially against England.

The prospects of the re-election of General Grant have been clouded by the result of the North Carolina election, the first since the nomination of candidates for the Presidency, Notwithstanding their strenuous efforts, the Republicans, who seem to have reckoned upon success, were beaten by a majority of 12,000 in the election of governor of the State. The friends of Mr. Horace Greeley are greatly elated at this favourable vote, and are sanguine that he will be the next President of the United States.

THE SESSION OF 1872.

IT came in gloomily, as our readers will well remember. In prospect it looked ominously, no one being able to say whether its days would not be prematurely cut short. On the part of the Conservatives there was keen expectation of a change. There was, to say the least, a lack of elasticity of spirit on the part of the Liberals. The two wings of the army commanded by the Premier were extremely dissatisfied, if not mutinous. The old Whigs hung back, full of suspicion that the Gladstone Ministry was inclined to move forward too rapidly. The more advanced section held that they had just ground of complaint because they had been handed over to sectarians—Anglican, Roman, and Wesleyan—in the matter of national education. There was a break down, or apparently so, of the Washington Treaty, partly owing, it was felt by all, to want of vigilance in the Government which concluded it. There was the Sir Robert Collier job, which nobody could well justify. There were other matters of serious importance which it was almost taken for granted would shatter the Gladstone Administration, perhaps before Easter. The feeling that pervaded the House when it met in February was not a cheerful one, at least on the right-hand side of the Speaker's chair. There were very few members who wished to see the Government go to pieces, but there were not a few who regarded it as doomed to early extinction by its own infatuated vagaries; and there was, perhaps, more talk over the chances of an early dissolution than over the programme shadowed forth by the Queen's Speech.

Nothing has happened in accordance with these forebodings. One by one, the dangers to which the Government had wantonly exposed itself, passed away, not always in consequence of the wisdom of the means adopted to avert them. Almost every party felt the critical position in which public affairs had been placed. Almost every one of them shrank from the responsibility of pushing its quarrel with the Ministry to an extreme issue. It was acknowledged on all hands that the difference existing between the London and Washington Governments respecting the "indirect claims," exacted from all parties in this country the utmost patience, reticence, and forbearance. The success of arbitration as a substitute for war amongst civilised communities, was at stake, and it was generally conceded by Parliament that, until that difference had been settled, one way or another, it would be a public calamity if the mistakes of the Ministry were visited with condign retribution. The whole course of domestic politics, therefore may be said to have been held in suspense by the Alabama question. The Geneva arbitrators unexpectedly interposed, and cut the knot which Grant and Granville ineffectually essayed to untie. Thereupon the ship righted. The danger was over, and the remainder of the Session was given to hard work.

It is not so easy, as at first sight it seems, to sketch the character of the Session just come to a close. Its legislative results will, perhaps, be regarded as satisfactory, at all events in bulk, if not in quality. But the processes by which these results have been compassed can hardly be looked back upon with pride. The one quality which has been conspicuous over all others in the House of Commons is assiduity in the discharge of its functions. It has worked like a slave. It has given itself early and late to public business. That it has done so wisely we will not say. Half the talk of the Session might have been omitted with benefit, and a great deal of that related to the Ballot Bill, now happily become the law of the land. Excessive loquacity, indeed, is one of the special weaknesses of the present House of Commons—a weakness which it exhibits more fully as it draws towards the close of its career. The truth is, it is not held in hand by its leader. He is himself somewhat too fond of speaking, and a large number of members take encouragement from his example. Wordiness is certainly one of the chief characteristics which the Session presents to those who look back upon it—a fluctuating sea of talk, some of it worth remembering, most of it impossible to be remembered.

Parliament has just entered upon a new phase of legislation, of which the Mines Regulation Bill and the Public Health Bill may be accepted as fair specimens. It has almost come to the end of its political reforms. It will have, it is true, to redistribute and to equalise the political power of constituencies, but it will

probably leave this task to its successor. It has betaken itself to what is imposingly called "constructive legislation." It has entered upon the region of social economics. It has interfered more decisively than perhaps any preceding Parliament, for an equitable adjustment of social relations. We shall see what will come of it. Many of its direct and immediate results will no doubt be good. Whether its ultimate tendency will be of the same character is by no means certain. For our part, we look with considerable apprehension upon the efforts which are being incessantly made to give to the people of this country what are called the advantages of paternal Government. The evils of over-legislation do not show themselves at first. They will show themselves by-and-by. And, in many respects, it is possible they will prove themselves to be worse, because more subtle, than those they were meant to cure. The present House of Commons, in entering upon this field of legislation, is not altogether unaware of the danger it incurs.

The work of the Session, on the whole, is, perhaps, up to the level of public opinion. We are sorry to think so, but we cannot altogether efface the suspicion from our minds. We have seen no evidence, from the commencement of the Session, that, even in matters in which Government and Parliament have strayed from Liberal traditions, their errors have been keenly resented by the constituencies. There is too much commercial prosperity to co-exist with great active concern for political progress. We have passed the Ballot Bill, it is true, but we have also passed an Army Localisation Bill such as no Tory would have dared to propose. We have been extravagant in expenditure, and we have been deferential to all kinds of ecclesiastical pretension. Members are about to go their way, if they have not already gone, to their several places and modes of recreation. They have earned rest by the continuousness and severity of the labours they have undergone. Some of them, perhaps, would be far more satisfied than they are if they could convince themselves that their vigilance early and late had turned to better account.

DR. LIVINGSTONE AND THE ARAB SLAVE-TRADERS.

IN the last of the interesting series of despatches which Dr. Livingstone has addressed to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs the great explorer confirms everything that has been said at home during his absence with reference to the Zanzibar slave-trade. The frightful calamities which that trade entails upon the inhabitants of the far interior are pathetically described by the philanthropic traveller. From him we learn that tribes greatly superior, both intellectually and physically, to those dwelling near the coast, have been cruelly decimated by the marauding Arab traders who feed the slave-markets of Tripoli, Egypt, and Zanzibar. The whole of central Africa is being plundered of its male inhabitants by the vile traffickers in human flesh who rely—unfortunately with too much reason—upon the apathy of England. Dr. Livingstone's narrative, moreover, is of the highest practical value. He shows that the slave-trade is directly encouraged by British subjects living at Zanzibar—that the Banians (as the Indian merchants are called) supply the Arabs with arms, ammunition, and goods for the purpose of prosecuting their man-stealing expeditions. Dr. Livingstone gives names, dates, and facts. He singles out the richest Indian trader at Zanzibar as being primarily responsible for some of the greatest atrocities which have taken place in the interior, and he declares that but for the money of this and other unscrupulous subjects of the Queen, slaving would speedily cease. The truth is, that slave-trading is not indigenous in these African countries. The poor creatures who are dragged off to Zanzibar are not prisoners who are captured in war—they are free men and women who have been torn from their homes by Arab robbers and murderers. It seems inexplicable that the principals in these ghastly transactions should actually have been employed to forward supplies to Dr. Livingstone, and certainly both the Doctor and his friends at home are entitled to some better explanation of the motives which induced the hire of such agents than has yet been afforded. The fact that common traders are able without loss to send supplies of merchandise from the coast, and to procure loads of ivory in return, is in itself a proof that if Dr. Livingstone's interests had been properly attended to, he would not have suffered from those successive acts of plunder which reduced him to the miserable plight in which he was discovered by Mr. Stanley.

But much as Dr. Livingstone's personal sufferings excite our sympathy, it is necessary that we should fasten our attention upon what is taking place under the eye of the British Resident, and with the *quasi*-sanction of the English Foreign Office, in the great Arab slave port of Zanzibar. Slaves are exported from the Sultan's dominions at the rate of twenty thousand per annum; and as four-fifths of the negroes are known to perish on the road to the sea coast, it follows that the Arabs and the Banians combined are responsible for the enslavement or extermination every year of one hundred thousand human beings. Dr. Livingstone says that the Manyuema cannibals among whom he spent nearly two years are innocents compared with our Banian fellow-subjects, and he suggests that if the Indian Government could but see the horrid deeds which result from the cupidity of these ruffians, every Indian found guilty of direct or indirect slaving would "forthwith be shipped back to India, if not to the Andaman Islands." There have been travellers like Captain Burton who, in their dislike of Christianity and Christian missionaries, have delighted in exalting the work of Mahommedanism in Africa. Dr. Livingstone's letters will for ever destroy the false view which is thus given of the influence exerted by the wily Arabs who trade in ivory and men in the heart of the African continent. The Banians occupy every position of trust in connection with the custom-house at Zanzibar; and thus they are enabled to throw a veil over many of the iniquities in which they and their countrymen are implicated. The Sultan himself has a common interest with them in the free export of slaves; for he enjoys a revenue of two and a half dollars per head on every slave admitted into his dominions. English law ought to be strong enough to reach those English subjects against whom Dr. Livingstone levels his invectives; but the Sultan requires to be dealt with in a different manner. His nominal Suzerain is the Imaum of Muscat, to whom we virtually compel him to pay a considerable annual tribute. The Sultan has again and again assured us that if we would withdraw this moral compulsion he would be willing to enter into more stringent engagements for the suppression of the slave-trade. But the Indian Government has ever interposed some fanciful difficulties of its own; and the prince is still constrained to meet the demand of the petty Asiatic potentate. Another proposal was the payment of an annual subsidy of eight thousand pounds as the price of his adherence to an anti slave-trade policy. But incredible as it may seem, Mr. Lowe and the Treasury at home objected to the expense, although the Indian Government was willing to pay one-half the amount. We maintain a costly squadron on that coast without any substantial advantage to the cause of humanity; once in a few years we conclude a treaty which only temporises with a great crime; and yet when, for a few thousand pounds, something may really be accomplished, we allow our Chancellor of the Exchequer to haggle over the money in the spirit of a miser. Yet the English people are as eager now as they were a generation ago in the cause which enlisted the self-denying devotion of a Clarkson and the lofty eloquence of a Wilberforce and a Brougham.

To concentrate public opinion in favour of the effectual suppression of the East African slave-trade is a duty which it ought not to be difficult to perform. The responsibility of purging Zanzibar devolves primarily upon the Government of this country. Slave-trading is a practice which no civilised nation ought to recognise, and which, if we permit it to be regulated by treaty, can only render us the accomplices of men-stealers. In the Somali Country, on the borders of Abyssinia, in the great valleys of the Nile, in the remote countries which feed the slave-markets of Northern Africa, slave-trading is rife, and the profits from it are so enormous as to stimulate the avarice both of Arabs and of Europeans. To put down the slave-trade in so many different regions may be a task beyond the strength of any single nation. But if our statesmen are at all equal to the duties of their position, they will seek the co-operation of every civilised state. The great offenders are the Mussulman nations of the world. It is they who buy and use up the negroes who are torn from their native villages, and the time has come when, if civilisation is not to sink into contempt, they must be warned that slavery itself is an institution which cannot be much longer tolerated by the conscience of mankind. We hope that when further tidings are received from Sir Samuel Baker's expedition it will be seen that the Khedive is in earnest in desiring to root out the slave-traders of Gondoroko and Khartoum, and we must therefore needs wait for the issue of that singular and not altogether satisfactory enterprise. But we can act without loss of time on the opposite shore of the Red Sea and in the Persian Gulf; very serious remonstrances ought at once to be addressed to the ruler of Tripoli and also to the Government at Constantinople. The Sultan of Turkey has declared that "selling people as animals or articles of furniture is contrary to the will of the Sovereign Creator," but the greatest offenders are his own subjects and co-religionists.

FOOD PROSPECTS.

No one can as yet say what will be the character of the harvest of 1872. A fine and hot July did much to improve and ripen the crops, which before the month closed had generally assumed a golden hue. The large rainfall, copious but intermittent, refreshed the green crops and pastures without injuring the wheat plant; and surveyed without the critical eye of an agriculturalist, the country has rarely at this period looked more lovely, or the soil seemed so prolific of all kinds of vegetation. Perhaps appearances are, in this case, somewhat deceptive. The harm done by late spring frosts and excessive rains cannot be so easily repaired. August has opened with broken, showery weather, and there is at present no sign of continuous sunshine, so necessary for the ingathering of the crops. A large breadth of wheat and other cereals in the southern counties has been cut, and has been for some days standing in the sheaf awaiting a favourable change. All now depends upon settled weather. With such a blessing vouchsafed to us, the harvest will be generally completed during the present month. At the best we can hardly hope for an average yield, while if the rain should continue, the harvest will be late and seriously deficient. The price of grain is already high for the season, and every day's rain will increase the current rates. Thanks to free-trade, we have no fear of famine prices, but a serious failure of the harvest would be a great check to the prevalent prosperity, and would, like the scarcity of coal, tell indirectly upon all branches of our national industry, and the cost of all articles of consumption.

But whatever may be the result of the present harvest, events are conspiring to send up the price of animal food, notwithstanding the favourable condition of pasture lands and the abundance of fodder. There has been a fresh and wide-spread outbreak of the foot-and-mouth disease, which is decimating our flocks and herds. This troublesome though not fatal complaint is now prevalent in at least fourteen English counties; and, owing to the apathy or powerlessness of the local authorities, is spreading with alarming rapidity. In Devonshire alone there were last week nearly seventeen thousand cases of infection. In spite of the precautions taken—and they have not been very prompt or general—the disease is passed on from district to district, and the difficulty of stamping it out is seriously enhanced. The loss and deterioration of stock thus occasioned is estimated to exceed in the aggregate that which has been caused by the Cattle Plague. That scourge, too, again threatens us. Just as the Privy Council was contemplating a relaxation of the restrictions on the importation of cattle, news arrived that seven infected cargoes had reached our shores at Leith, Newcastle, and Deptford, from Russia and Hamburg. The prompt action of the Privy Council and the local authorities have thus far kept out the fatal Rinderpest. It prevails in Russia and in the neighbourhood of Hamburg, and no one can reasonably complain that an Order in Council has been issued directing all cattle from Germany to be slaughtered at the port of landing. This necessary restriction will, together with the prevalence of the foot-and-mouth disease, tend to restrict our supplies at a time when they are, from various causes, more than usually deficient.

The famine price of animal food is giving rise to unusual demonstrations. Not a few open-air meetings have been held throughout the country to consider the subject, at which resolutions have been adopted for modifying the restrictions on the importation of cattle—a policy which, it now appears, would be not only inexpedient, but dangerous, and defeat the object which the protestors have at heart. If, as Mr. Forster says, the Privy Council Department had allowed all German cattle coming here to go into the interior, the cattle plague might be in our midst and spreading all over the country. In some places there have been angry complaints against the butchers as the cause of the high price of meat. But the good sense of the people has generally declined to accept this ignorant assumption. The retailers have here and there taken the matter into

their own hands. Thus at Manchester the butchers have held a meeting in the Free-Trade Hall, and while rejecting a proposal to close their shops for a fortnight—as has been done at Wakefield—have decided to lessen the consumption during August and September "by purchasing from the dealers much less than the usual supply." That no one is to blame for the present high price of animal food is coming to be recognised. Such remedy as there may be lies with the consumer rather than the dealer. A Bradford open-air meeting recommends all persons to refrain from the consumption of beef for one month and from the consumption of veal and lamb for twelve months. The wisdom of the last suggestion is evident. Economy in the use of meat—for most people consume more than is needed—and a better system of cookery, would go far to mitigate the evil. Still more would the end be attained by general use of the Australian tinned meat, which is cheap, nutritious, and palatable to those who can overcome prejudice, and occasionally forego fresh joints.

Our food prospects, then, taken at the best, cannot be said to be very cheering, and the evils of dear meat (and perhaps bread) will be aggravated by the enormous price of fuel. It is a trying time for persons of fixed incomes and large families. The rise in prices all round means restricted expenditure, and in the end diminished production. It would seem that the cycle of national prosperity is coming to an end. We must face the difficulties of our new position as best we can, and by wise forethought try to mitigate their injurious effects.

HOW IT STRIKES A STRANGER.

London, August 5, 1872.

Looking back over the talk to which I have listened during the past week, the speech delivered by Mr. Knight on the Public Health Bill presents itself most prominently. Mr. Knight, I may be allowed to say by way of introduction, is member for West Worcestershire, and a trustee of the British Museum. He has been in the House since 1841, and was Secretary to the Poor Law Board in 1852 under Lord Derby. He has never been in office since then, for reasons which those who heard him on Thursday can easily discover. Dod's *Parliamentary Companion*, I observe, makes no record of his official achievements, and it certainly is better in every way that they should be forgotten. The occasion of the remarkable exploit by Mr. Knight with which we are now more immediately concerned was the consideration of Mr. Stansfeld's Public Health Bill as amended, and it was intended as the principal manœuvre in a series of operations the object of which was to stop the bill. Mr. Knight's speech introduced a motion to postpone the further consideration of the bill for one month—that is to say, to reject it—and was really a speech which should have been delivered on the second reading. Mr. Knight began by saying that he had divided the clauses of the bill under two heads—tyranny and taxation—and he then proceeded to preach upon each of these texts a most incoherent, noisy, boisterous, inexact, abusive, silly sermon. Every now and then his voice broke out into a kind of roar or shriek, and the louder the roar or shriek the more incoherent, inexact, abusive and silly was the sentiment which he therewith endeavoured to convey to the House. One of his great points was that it was left to the Local Government Board to decide what were the sanitary purposes for which local authorities might tax their constituents. Mr. Stansfeld allowed him to go on for some time, and then quietly interrupted him by remarking across the table that there was no clause in the bill of the kind described. Mr. Knight was brought up sharply by this unexpected contradiction, just as a man might be who had run his head against a post in the dark, and he had recourse to his copy of the bill, which he tumbled over with much assiduity, observing from time to time, in an undertone, that he was sure it was there; that he was *certain* it was there, and so forth. This went on for a minute or two, the House waiting upon him with much patience, until, at last, Mr. Knight not seeming disposed to give up the search, and members not being disposed to sit still doing nothing, there arose ironical applause which caused him to confess he was mistaken, and so he rubbed his bruises as best he could, and started off afresh full tilt. Presently he fell foul of the gentlemen at the Local Government Board. He had been at the Poor Law Board, which was the same thing as the Local Government Board, and he ought to know what kind of people they were. "They sat on high stools all day long, and knew all about the precedents of Poor-law administration, but if there was a set of men in the world absolutely ignorant, *perfectly* (shriek) ignorant of all that it was necessary for a local administrator to understand, it was the set at Gwydyr House, Whitehall." This, of course, was a reminiscence of mild remonstrances on the part of some permanent secretary in 1852 against some of Mr. Knight's extravagances. The bill, he declared, was a thoroughly bad bill. He detected in it the "horns, hoofs, and tails of Mr. Edwin Chadwick." This produced much laughter, not of a very complimentary kind, but nothing deterred, Mr. Knight rushed on pell-mell. "We were the best cleansed and best drained persons in the world." Of course there ensued more laughter, which rolled off him like the water off a duck's back. "The President of the Local Government Board had himself admitted that he *knew*—(great shriek)—that the bill would cause considerable expense." Mr. Stansfeld meekly denied ever having used any such words. "I've got them down here in pencil—taken down at the time," quoth Mr. Knight. Mr. Stansfeld still shook his head. "I'm ready to take my oath (!!) you said it," courteously responded Mr. Knight. Mr. Disraeli, who sat just under his obstreperous friend, was very much tickled, and, turning half round, hinted to him that it was not Mr. Stansfeld, but Mr. Hibbert, who was answerable for the quotation. "Oh, ah, yes, to be sure! yes, yes, so it was," was the gracious admission, and once more Mr. Knight was full swing on another tack. Such is Mr. Knight, who, as I have said, has for thirty-one years represented a great English county, and who has also helped to rule us. He is not so in Hansard nor in the *Times*. There his oddities are carefully pruned away, and he is corrected into something like decent shipshape. But he really is just what I have reported him to be; and the thought that he, and others such as he, are the chosen of this people to lead them heavenward is a fact which fills me with mute amazement and meditation, preventing often all other thoughts for hours as I sit in that House. I have repeated nothing but the curiosities of his speech. The dull leaden opacity, the absence of any sense of the dignity of legislation, or of any theory of legislation, I cannot reproduce. There is no pigment in my poor little shilling paint-box wherewith to paint it. It is absurd to say he represents West Worcestershire. He cannot do it, except in the sense that he represents the shameful indifference with which English people vote for members of Parliament. We make a great noise about politics, and we imagine that we are, next to the Americans, the most political people upon the earth, but the solemn responsibility of the electoral vote is a thing of which, as a nation, we have, as yet, but a most inadequate notion. No good of any kind worth naming will come to us until we learn that to throw up the cap for the first Tomnoddy who may present himself, without exercising any proper choice in the matter, is really and truly an offence against Divine law. Mr. Knight, it appeared, had his party. What man or cause is there which cannot obtain a party? He was seconded by Mr. Gregory, member for East Sussex, and a solicitor, a gentleman whom long practice as a solicitor seems to have washed out into colourlessness. Mr. Corrance also supported him in one of those fatally fluent speeches which embody how much wind none but those who sit and listen have the smallest notion. Mr. Newdegate also assisted, and his speech was really interesting, because it told us what we, or at least I, did not know before—that he had been asked to take office by the late Lord Derby. It was curious to think what might have happened if Mr. Newdegate had yielded to the voice of the charmer, and had taken his seat on the Treasury Bench. What would have become of the "monastic and conventual institutions"? Would the fires in Smithfield have been revived without his watchful check upon the aggressions of the Jesuits? The appointment, though, in many senses would have been a good one. We laugh at Mr. Newdegate for his crotchets and his tendencies to boredom, but he is, beyond all doubt, perfectly sincere, and commands the respect of everybody who knows him. He would have strengthened the Conservative Administration just at the point where it needed strength, and would have increased the confidence of the Conservative party.

On Monday, General Sherman paid the House a visit, and sat in the seat just over the clock, where he was visited by Mr. Cardwell and Sir Henry Storks. It was difficult for a person in your correspondent's position to make out precisely what he was like, but he appeared to be a man of singular toughness, with "nerves of catgut," as a gentleman assured me who was introduced to him. He was evidently occupied rather with the forms and manners of the House, than with the particular debate then in progress, which was uninteresting enough.

The House, it is hoped, will be up by Saturday, and the beginning of the end has arrived; none but the professional legislators now remaining in town. The House is dreary in the extreme, the lobbies being all deserted, and the emphasis having departed from all the cheers. C.

MILITARY MORALITY.

(*Communicated.*)

"Don't speak to me—I'm completely demoralised!" Such was the startling speech with which a breathless Federal soldier, frantic with fear, greeted an eager questioner, as, having thrown his arms away, he was in full flight from the disastrous field of Bull's Run. Such does not appear to be the opinion of two military officers of high rank regarding the moral condition of themselves or of the British Army, in a controversy which has been raging in the daily papers of London, and which bids fair to occupy a goodly portion of the provincial, and, eventually, of the colonial press. Because Mr. Henry Richard, M.P., asserted from his place in Parliament, "that the moral condition of the army and navy has been, and still is, *to a large extent*, simply appalling," he has aroused the moral susceptibilities of "two officers of high rank"—just as if rank have anything to do with experience or knowledge of the domestic habits of the private soldier!—and of a portion of the press subservient to military interests, whose leading articles on military affairs are invariably written by military men, of "high rank," of course. Before making any observation on the morality of the army, I would ask why should the assertions of "two officers of high rank" take precedence of other members of society? My reason for asking this is, that it is a notorious fact that the officers, and especially those of high rank, of the British army, know positively less of the moral and social habits of their men than those of any other country. Nay, I will even go further, and assert that they know even less of their own men than the middle-class civilians of a garrison town. Their social communication with their men is extremely limited, and, such as it is, is cold, formal, and repulsive. They only "associate" with their men on parades, field days, and guard, picket, and stable duties; they never, or very seldom, join in their sports or recreations; and even when they do visit a soldiers' library, school, cricket-ground, gymnasium, or barrack-room, their harsh, stiff, and formal manner acts like a dead weight upon the minds of the men, who feel a delightful sense of relief when they turn their backs. Not so was it with Field-Marshal Suvorov, who whenever he appeared among his men was hailed with childish shouts of glee; who would sit for hours drinking quass, listening to their little private matters, and, himself telling long stories to the delighted groups of privates who surrounded him, and who felt a sense of real melancholy when he departed. Neither is it so with the officers of other continental armies, who associate freely and *cheerfully* with their men when off duty, and are none the less respected for it. To the assertion of Mr. Richard, modified as it was by the expression "to a large extent," which seems to have been overlooked, one of these officers retorts with the sweeping dogma that "the morality of the army is infinitely higher than that of the civil population!" Now, considering that the British army is, to the extent of fully nine-tenths, recruited from the very lowest dregs of the civil population, and, keeping in view the significant Johnsonian aphorism that "patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel," this reads really like a joke.

Do these officers know what it is for married women to sleep, with their children, *in the same room* with from ten to twenty-five men, and that the blasphemous language and depravity therein carried on, were "simply appalling," as Mr. Richard very truly and modestly puts it? Do they know—as I, alas! but too well know by sad experience and observation—that a young wife has joined her husband, blushing, pure and modest from a quiet country district, and that in six weeks, owing to the shocking scenes she witnessed, and the disgraceful language she was compelled to hear, she has become even more brazen and depraved than the bold and foul-tongued trollops who were born and bred amid such scenes? Have they seen, as I have seen, a quiet country village "invaded" and saddled for the first time with soldiers in billets, who, ere they had been a month in the

place, rendered the social atmosphere as foul as that of Sodom and Gomorrah; and, when they have quitted the spot, have left loathsome diseases, illegitimate children, ruined girls, suicides, and heart-broken parents behind them? Have they seen, as I have seen, the track of an army through the heart of India, leaving the same results; and, finally, have they noted the effects, which extend to this day, of the armies of Hannibal upon "the civil population" of Italy? Sixteen years was he there with his swarthy Carthaginian troops, and the consequence was, that not only were the complexions, but the very dispositions of the people changed. The entire population became eventually dark (as was the effect from the presence of the Moors in Spain, and which must happen to the United States in the course of time), and a rage for the dagger, the knife, and the stiletto, with superstitious observances, accompanied the change. Of course, that has not much to do with the present question; yet such are some of the results of the presence of soldiers upon civil population, more especially those who are rural and primitive.

Again, I would call the attention of those officers of high rank to a matter with which they must of necessity be very well acquainted. I mean the system of promotion of non-commissioned officers. These men, from the very responsible positions which they hold, should be the very salt of the service; they should be "picked" men in every sense of the word, because they are, or ought to be, the natural guides and instructors of the lower grades of the Service. And who are chosen for those responsible positions? Why, it is a notorious fact that, in a great number of cases, those selected for promotion, or rather "picked," have been ignorant men with the prettiest wives!—in a word, those men upon whom to the greatest extent the moral and social education and condition of the men depend, are selected upon a system of gross depravity and debauchery, and the result can be easily imagined. No doubt "officers of high rank" will lift up their voices and condemn this as a gross libel and venomous criticism; it may be so, but it is none the less true nevertheless, as I can testify by actual observation and experience. All this is very unpatriotic also, no doubt; but I am not one of those who would perpetuate the false principle—"my country, right or wrong!" Let the axe be laid to the root of the evil in my own country, unpatriotic though it may be, before I attack the evils of others. More than this, it is within the memory of man that a Commander-in-Chief in India once made a number of promotions among officers of rank through their wives. He was such a "hero" in the field, that he was irresistible in the drawing-room to husbands as well as wives. This fact was once notorious. But the two officers above-named would call this morality, and infinitely higher than the tame and wicked existence of civil life! A word more upon non-commissioned officers. Such as are promoted by the "moral" means to which I have alluded, are a disgrace to humanity as well as to the Service; their sole ambition being to outdo their "inferiors" in blasphemy and licentiousness. Hence, privates of education, and respectable in character, almost invariably decline promotion, from a horror of having to associate with such.

As one of Mr. Richard's opponents is a cavalry officer, let me take an instance of military morality from his own branch of the Service, to illustrate his theory, or rather dogma, that "the morality of the army is infinitely higher than that of the civil population." He has, as a matter of course, gone through the ordeal of the riding school. The riding-master may, *when he likes*, be quite select in the language he employs towards young officers and gentlemen when instructing them; but when he has a squad of mere "men" under his eye, can anything exceed or even equal the filth that issues from his mouth? Exhausting every foul word that can be found in the scope of the English language, he then draws upon his own fertile and disgusting imagination, and pours forth such a sickening succession of blasphemies and bestialities, that his "pupils" soon become as broken-spirited as a set of worn-out carthorses, except they have the spirit and ambition to imitate and surpass him, which is sometimes the case. But it is evident that military riding cannot be taught without such "moral suasions," since nearly all riding-masters employ the same language. In fact, it is the rule, those exceptions which attend all rules being only rare indeed. Indeed, blasphemy and foul language seem so absolutely necessary to make people good riders, that the practice exists to a modified extent, even in private riding schools, where necessary instruction is so interlarded with foul speech, that it makes a spectator's blood boil to listen to it. But in the military riding schools it is shocking in the extreme, driving men to desertion and suicide. I would recommend "A Cavalry Officer" and his *confrères* to study, as military text books, the "Life of Washington," the "Maxims of Washington," and the "Revolutionary Orders of Washington." He will there find that a man can be a Christian as well as a soldier; and, in the two special general orders of Washington against swearing and gambling, he will find an example that has neither been set nor followed by any British Commander-in-Chief. "A Cavalry Officer" having studied these works, will find that there is, in comparison, a woeful defect in his own services, and the authenticated reports of gaming, swearing, and "disgraceful conduct" in military messes and military clubs, both at home and abroad, are in themselves enough to confute the bold and reckless assertion regarding the moral superiority which is so amusingly claimed for the military over the civil population. A host of reliable evidence is procurable, to show that the lower, and, in but too many instances, the higher ranks of the British army, are a debased, demoralised, and demoralising class of men, and the assertion is neither "vague, reckless, nor unpatriotic," as some papers assert; on the contrary, it is in the best interests of the soldiers themselves. Mr. Richard asserts that were soldiers more occupied than they are at present, they would be more moral, and, consequently, require no protection from the consequences of vice. He is quite right in this, but I will go further, and say that were officers themselves more generally of a moral character; were the non-commissioned officers more generally selected for intelligence and good conduct, and not for the sake of their wives; were they to be plentifully supplied with books, and the time and means for indulging in healthy and harmless games, in which officers would become free and cheerful, and not stiff, cold, and patronising participators; and, finally, were the military quarters always to be placed at such a distance from a town, or even hamlet, that it would be a matter of some time and trouble to frequent them, it would be an incalculable benefit to themselves, and a perfect blessing to the civil population at large. Warley Barracks is as near an approach to the latter system as exists in England, as, for what little money the men have to spend, the public-houses of Brentwood are too far off to be visited so often as they would were they nearer, and the consequence is that the men stationed there indulge more in quiet country walks, athletic sports on the common, and recreation in the library, than they would if placed in or very near a town. These remarks apply also to the troops stationed at Fort Charles, Kinsale, where loose women and public-house temptations are some miles from their quarters. There is yet another thing which has had a terrible effect upon the moral character of the army. Fox Maule's "Ten Years' Act" was a sad blunder, and short terms of service, without making men steady, old soldiers, are yet quite long enough to unfit them, when they quit the Service, for other occupations. Under the old twenty-one years' system, the Service had this advantage, that men after fifteen, seventeen, and twenty years' service were really "old soldiers" in every sense of the word. Their wild oats were sown and reaped; they had settled down into the steady groove of true military habits; they were wise, both from age and experience, and the raw recruit entertained more respect for them, felt more awed in their presence than they do now with twelve and fourteen-year men, for few really "old" soldiers now exist in the Service; and those who claim their discharge at the end of twelve or fourteen years, while scarcely deserving the name of old soldiers, are totally unfit for civil employment, and from their "moral" military teaching, in too many instances become the poison and pest of civil society.

As I have before stated, an antidote for a considerable amount of depravity in the army could be provided by establishing their quarters at a considerable distance from towns or hamlets; by a more judicious selection of non-commissioned officers; and last, but not least, by causing every young officer to undergo a "probation" of one year *with* the privates, doing guards, pickets, and even "fatigues," in common with them; messing and sleeping with them, a system which would be beneficial to both, since the men would be under a certain degree of restraint, so far as language and general barrack-room behaviour went; whilst the officer would really know the character of the men over whom he would be so soon placed. At present an officer knows less than a civilian in a garrison town, of the language, habits, and pursuits of the men; and as for their characters, he is content to take the word of depraved non-commissioned officers, who have been promoted by such means as I have above named, and whose vindictive natures often ruin men far better than themselves. So far as mixing with the men is concerned, subaltern officers should be made to take the duty of sleeping by turns in every barrack-room, as far as possible; then when they arrived at the dignity of high rank, they could really speak of the habits and characters of their men with the authority of actual experience, and not as now, only from information derived from ignorant and prejudiced non-commissioned officers. Under these circumstances, no "venomous critics," as they have been lately termed, would have a shadow of a reason for "running down the reputation of the British soldier," as the military writers of leading articles in some of the papers eloquently express it. When officers of rank, however, who know nothing of the real character of their own men, take to writing partisan leading articles for daily papers, it is no wonder that such wild and one-sided nonsense should have appeared lately in print, and that the truth, so far as the private soldier is concerned, cannot be arrived at.

B. F. L.

Epitome of News.

The Queen and suite will arrive in Edinburgh on the 14th August, spend two days at Holyrood, and start for Balmoral on the evening of the 16th.

General Schenck, the American Minister, General Sherman, and the admiral and captains of the United States squadron at anchor in Southampton Water, were received by the Queen on Thursday at Osborne. Bishop M'Ilwain, of Ohio, was also presented to Her Majesty. General Sherman is now in London.

The Prince and Princess of Wales attended Goodwood races on Thursday.

Prof. J. Russell Lowell, the author of the "Biglow Papers," is now in England. He purposes staying two years in Europe.

Mr. Gladstone, accompanied by his son, the member for Whitby, left town on Saturday for Hawarden Castle to attend the funeral of the Rev. Canon Glymel.

Professor Cavanagh, of the Catholic University, has been appointed to the post of Secretary of the New Civil Service Commission.

Mr. Augustus Smith, lord and proprietor of the Scilly Islands, died on Tuesday night at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel, Plymouth, after a severe illness.

John Crossley and Sons (Limited) have declared an interim dividend for the half-year at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum.

The "Galway Vindication Fund," which was lately opened in Ireland to defray the election expenses of Captain Nolan, will be closed in a few days. This is regarded as an intimation that very nearly the whole of the necessary 12,000*l.* has been subscribed.

Two cases of alleged baby-farming were on Friday brought before metropolitan police magistrates. At Lambeth the prisoner was one Sarah Huxley, described as a domestic servant, who was charged with having caused the death of her female illegitimate child by neglecting to provide for its proper food and nourishment. At Hammersmith Annie Wheeler, a middle-aged woman, was brought up for the manslaughter of an emaciated female child which had died from exhaustion whilst under her care. It transpired that other children had expired under similar circumstances. In each case the prisoner was remanded.

Mr. Disraeli has not been present in tht House of Commons since last Friday week, except for about one hour on Thursday last.

The Marchioness of Bute, according to the last telegram received from Cardiff, is going on most favourably. Not the slightest danger is apprehended by her medical advisers.

The Emperor Napoleon arrived in London on Monday from Chiselhurst. His Majesty is said to be looking remarkably well.

Though the report of the resignation of the Lord Chancellor is denied, it is said that on the return of Sir Roundell Palmer from Geneva, that celebrated lawyer will become his successor. According to a morning paper Sir Alexander Cockburn will be offered a peerage, and most probably he will resign the Lord Chief Justiceship. Sir John Coleridge would then become Chief Justice of England, Sir George Jessel be Attorney-General, and perhaps Mr. Vernon Harcourt be Solicitor-General.

A process server named Martin Tunbridge was shot at Ballinrobe, county Mayo, near the military barracks, on Saturday night. He was in company with a man named Fahy, when three shots were fired, two of which took effect, and from the result of which he died. On Monday a six-barrelled revolver, with three chambers discharged, was found in the river near the place. Fahy was arrested and remanded.

Literature.

*RECENT SCEPTICISM.**

We hope we need not say that we are advocates for the most absolute liberty of thought and speech, and that for those views which are in antagonism, quite as much as for those which are in sympathy with our own. The interests of truth may be injured, but they can never be served by repressing the free expression of opinion; and, for ourselves, we are always glad that any principle we hold should be subjected to the most fearless and searching scrutiny. But the more fully and strongly we assert the rights of liberty, the more anxious are we that they should not be discredited by the manner in which they are used; and unfortunately there is at present a mode of discussing questions, and especially religious questions, which can only produce this result. There are two or three well-known sceptics who have got into a habit of spasmodic and sensational writing, which only irritates and wounds those whose views they are opposing. Of course these leaders find their followers, who copy and exaggerate their worst faults, to whom it seems a noble achievement to say something so extravagant that it is sure to shock the prejudices and wound the feelings of conscientious Christians. They start apparently with the supposition that the adherents of the orthodox faith are either knaves or fools, and that, whichever alternative be adopted, they cannot be dealt with too severely. They forget that vehemence of expression does not constitute strength of argument, that it is possible to be irreverent without being trenchant, that rude blasphemy is no substitute for logical reasoning, and that, in short, the emphasis with which they underline the old platitudes of unbelief adds nothing to their real force. We suppose they regard us as pachydermatous animals, whose hardened feelings and stolid understandings cannot be easily penetrated, and to whom, therefore, it is necessary to address words so strong as sometimes to be positively offensive. As a matter of policy, no course could be so unwise. The most formidable enemies of revelation are not those who have imitated the coarseness and ribaldry of Tom Paine, but rather those who have understood how to mask their hostility, and while inflicting deadliest blows, to preserve a show of outward deference. Violence is repulsive at all times; but it is especially so when employed in relation to themes, a right decision on which must have such tremendous issues as are involved in the great questions of our religious faith, and, most of all, when it is associated with a feebleness in reasoning which renders the extravagance in language the more marked and the more offensive. The men of real power who have set the example of excess of this kind, have a good deal for which to answer, and possibly, when some of them see how they have been copied, they may discover their own mistake. The force of an argument is never weakened by the restraint which a man may impose upon himself, if only in consideration of what he regards as the weaknesses of others, but, on the contrary, a sound argument will often fail to produce its right impression when it is put forth with an extravagance and a contemptuous disregard of opposed opinions, however distinguished and excellent may be the men by whom it is held.

We have been led to these observations mainly by two works which we have selected as the subject of this article. In one respect we are not sorry to see them. They are the reflection of a good deal of loose, crude, ill-defined opinion hostile to Evangelical truth which is floating in certain circles, and it is well that it should come to the light and reveal its true character. They may help teachers of religion to understand the forms of doubt with which they have to deal, and which it would be worse than idle to ignore or despise. Their violence indeed supplies the best counteraction to any injurious influence they might exert, but not the less may they show the aspect which dogmas, on which some are fond of insisting, wear to many, and so suggest the importance of meeting wisely the kind of opposition which they indicate, and the germs of which may be found in minds which would probably shrink from their extreme conclusions and would certainly object to their mode of expressing them. The first, "Esse and Posse," is from the pen of a Cambridge graduate, the second comes professedly from one who has had few opportunities of culture, but who, from the back pews, enters his protest against much of the teaching of the pulpit. The one, therefore, expresses the opposition of refined and educated intelligence, the other that of common sense. They are not identical in view, but they are agreed in their antagonism to the prevailing creed of Christendom, and both are characterised by the same bitterness of feeling and intensity of language. Mr. Braithwaite is a product of that system of religious instruction which has prevailed at the Universities, and if he be, as we have heard, a type of a numerous class, we may form some idea of the value of those safeguards of orthodoxy which the great Conservative party were so anxious to retain. If a system of liberty introduces a scepticism more decided and rampant than that which is exhibited here, it must be bad indeed. Is it not probable that the coercion which has been attempted has itself provoked the extreme recoil and inspired the fierce hostility which is here manifested?

Mr. Braithwaite's aim is to find the "golden "equator" between the opposite poles of opinions which he describes as "faith without "knowledge and knowledge without faith." The Darwinian theory of the descent of man appears to him equally to hide the true light from man, and he seeks, therefore, to expose the weakness of the scientific speculation, and to suggest an interpretation for miracles "free "from the materialism which seems to underlie "the religious theories," and which, he thinks, "tend rather to overcloud than enhance the "spirit and force of Christianity." His argument against Darwinianism is not new, and probably will not satisfy its zealous advocates, but it is put with a good deal of smartness. The objections are, for the most part, such as easily suggest themselves, but they are certainly not often presented in a style which would be telling if it were not so flippant. He very truly says that "speculation gets no further away "from God by losing itself amid the obscurity of "microscopic affinities," and very pertinently asks, "Accepting for argument's sake plasm and "protoplasm, what and where was ante-proto-"plasm, or ante-ante-protoplasm? Doubtless "in the same category as ante-ante-prevenient "grace, and other similar devices." We will leave, however, the believers in the theory to deal with his endeavour to point out what he regards as its fallacies, and pass on briefly to notice his discussions of Christianity. His fundamental idea is that our theology has been too largely coloured by the "Hebrew ideal," and that it has been influenced more by Moses than by Jesus, and that the first essential to the formation of a truer system is that we get rid of the notions inculcated by the Old Testament. There is nothing new in this, and equally little in the mode in which he illustrates it. The difficulties he adduces are those which have been insisted upon again and again, and which many Christian inquirers have realised in all their force without feeling that they at all necessitate the conclusions which our author has reached. What is characteristic is the manner in which they are expressed, which certainly will not help to secure for them a more favourable consideration. To call the Exodus "if not an expulsion, a burglarious "exit, a gigantic piece of housebreaking," to speak of the ceremonial of the day of Atonement as a laying of the sins of the people upon "some unlucky goat, described as carrying "them away into the wilderness like a parcels "delivery and there left to perish;" to ask "on "what rests the idea that led the Jewish rulers "to bestow upon the sheep a general proxy and "power of attorney in behalf of goodness?" to represent the narrative in general as "a "mere figment of the thousand and one nights "of the credulous Arabian imagination," and to wind up the whole by informing us that "all "Oriental bashaw and Haroun-al-Raschid-like "images must go by the board, together with "every kind of tinselry and baubledom,"—this may be very strong writing, but it is not likely to be convincing. One remarkable point is that Mr. Braithwaite does not seem to perceive that the lower he degrades religion the more difficult the problem which, on the other side, he creates for himself. He prefers the Grecian or Roman deities to the Hebrew God; rejoices that "Greece "happily had no Moses to seal up her dawning "national spirit and intellect in a casket as "narrow, and sunk as deep, as that in which "Solomon is fabled to have imprisoned the "Djins," and tells us that "if there were no "better light than that afforded by the kind of "divinity celebrated in the Pentateuch, Joshua, "Judges, Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles, it "would be preferable to restore the Parthenon "(to which and to the fane of Herod the temple "of Solomon was but a hut) and re-establish "the worship of Divine Wisdom, at any rate "one certain and undefiled attribute of God." Now, if the superiority of Greece and her religious ideas be so evident, it is surely a singular fact that they should not have influenced the world; whereas the Hebrew ideal has influenced it so much. The "dire imaginings" of Moses, which he embodied (according to our author) "in "wrinkled shapes of frowns and anger" live while the sublime conceptions of those Greeks who "adored God in His attributes," and who, on the view here given, cannot have been idolaters at all, have passed away. Mr. Braithwaite is unsparing in the scorn he pours on the Hebrews, and yet it was among them that there arose "the sublime Man" (as our author patronisingly calls him) "who triumphantly withstood the moral and intellectual "plague in its own stronghold," and it is from them has come the power which has moved, and still does move, the world, and is sure to move it when our author's "eternal laws" are forgotten.

We have neither space nor inclination to follow Mr. Braithwaite in all his reasonings about miracles, which amount to nothing more than a reiteration of the assertion that God "never shifts the bases of His eternal laws "whether physical or moral," embellished with illustrations and remarks which often sound profane and are certainly irreverent. We know not whether his object is to express the fierceness of his hate to the popular theology, or to win assent to his own opinions, but certainly if it be the latter he has adopted a mistaken course. As to the possibility of miracles, we refer him to Mr. Mill, not likely to be a prejudiced judge, and one whose dictum cannot be set aside with the flippancy which is too characteristic of this book throughout. "A miracle (as was justly "observed by Brown) is no contradiction to the "law of cause and effect; it is a new effect supposed to be introduced by the introduction of "a new cause. Of the adequacy of that cause, "if present, there can be no doubt, and the only "antecedent improbability which can be ascribed "to the miracle is the improbability that any "such cause existed." In other words the belief in an Omnipotent God is incompatible with the assertion of the antecedent improbability of miracles. Whether God was likely to interfere in the modes and for the purposes recorded in the Bible, is a question on which we are not prepared to defer to the authority of Mr. Braithwaite. In his view "the God of "miracles is the God of non-nature, which is "Ungod," and perhaps he thinks this assertion, as remarkable in its language as it is dogmatic in its tone, settles the whole question. There are, however, men as wise as himself who have given to the subject at least as much thought and care, who had no motive to arrive at a conclusion which he would have us believe is equally contrary to common sense and true pious sentiment, who, with a full consciousness of all the difficulties, have arrived at the belief that the Scripture narrative is true, and whose faith is not to be treated in this summary fashion by the assumption of certain *à priori* principles which, after all, it is only a small minority who would accept. Our author, however, is evidently quite satisfied with his own right to pronounce decisively on all such questions. He is not troubled with those feelings of modesty which would restrain some men, and with equal facility proceeds to coin a word or fashion a creed. We have not for a long time come across a book with so many fresh words, but the author's genius does not satisfy itself with such additions to our vocabulary as "Nil-plasm," "Eschatoplasm," "onliness," "ceramberine," "Ungod," "godling," it aspires to give us also new forms of religious belief. He reconstructs the Apostles' Creed, and gives us a paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer which introduces some necessary improvements.

We have not left ourselves space to speak of the "Voice from the Back Pews," but it is the less necessary, as it speaks in much the same tone, and, for the most part, with the same tendency. Its writer, indeed, goes a step further than Mr. Braithwaite, for he thinks, not only that Moses is preferred to Jesus, but that Milton is preferred to Moses. His object, as announced by himself, is "to put Moses above "Milton, and Jesus Christ above Paul." While condemning the spirit of both books, we would not deny that there are points in them worthy of attention. The one conclusion we draw from them is that the more fully preachers set forth the love of our heavenly Father, making that the key-note of their theology, the better will they be prepared to meet all the attacks of scepticism, and the stronger will be their hold on the minds and hearts of men.

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* *Esse and Posse: A Comparison of Divine Eternal Laws and Powers as Severally Indicated in Fact, Faith, and Record.* By H. T. BRAITHWAITE, B.A. (Longmans, Green and Co.)

A Voice from the Back Pews to the Pulpit and Front Seats. By a BACK PEWMAN. (Longmans, Green and Co.)

*COUNT DE MONTALEMBERT.**

Mrs. Oliphant has a singular gift for biography, and she has been very successful hitherto in her choice of subject. As in her novels, she needs a character in whom impulse is strong, but in whom the spiritual instincts are at the same time very keen and active; so that there will necessarily be much of paradox—much that, from a common-sense point of view, needs apology and justification. A dash of over-fineness—of almost more than feminine fervour, held in association with a lofty independence that scorns the conventionalisms in which the feminine nature generally finds a gladsome shield and protection—go to furnish the groundwork of character in which she most delights; and her effusive sympathy with this type, together with her wonderful wealth and subtlety of language, give to her sketches their rare attraction, which remains even when she herself becomes a little wearisome and even contradictory in her tenderly exhaustive analysis. Edward Irving was exactly of this class, and certainly she would never have found in him so great a hero had it not been for the fine feminine impulses and the lofty intellectual daring, which were to the end unreconciled, and whose opposition it was which chiefly led to his tragic end.

In Count de Montalembert we have another specimen of the same type. The man who, with Lamennais and Lacordaire, nobly fought the fight of education and liberty in the *Avenir*, and when rebuffed rather than rebuked by the Pope, consented to submit to hold his peace as a good son of the Church, contriving to reconcile his silence with the conviction, confessedly reserved, that the "opinion of the Holy See as to the liberty of "the press being a cursed thing" was at once wrong and dangerous, certainly to a questioning Protestant mind does need some apology. The man who fought bravely for liberty—for a "free Church in a free State"—and who yet, because of his sentimental fancy for saint worship, could condemn Wartzburg and speak of Luther with undisguised dislike and disgust, was certainly by no means consistent, and failed to see the final application of the leading ideas, which he himself constantly preached, to practical political life. The man who had denied himself so much for the freedom of France, and who yet threw himself into the arms of Louis Napoleon both before and after he had schemed himself into the Emperor's seat, can hardly carry with him the complete sympathies of ordinary Englishmen. Montalembert was wont to speak of coming to England for a "bath of liberty," and his frank appreciation of our institutions—the less perhaps to be wondered at that his mother was a Forbes—will do much to recommend him to Englishmen, but not even Mrs. Oliphant's eloquent and subtle special pleading will convince them that the man who pronounced against infallibility with his whole soul, and who, nevertheless, was willing to doom himself to subservience to an infallibility once declared, was either so great or so far-seeing as she seeks to paint him. In almost every act of Montalembert's life, we see symptoms of the same fatal inconsistency—true and noble ideas clouded, confused, and rendered largely inefficient through the medium of thin and effeminate sentiment in which they speedily came to be shrouded. Nor was this merely characteristic of his early days. It was the same to the end; only that the sentimental enthusiasm was more refined in its forms of expression. But Mrs. Oliphant, because of these very defects in her subject, has proved herself all the more skilful a biographer. She never fails in sympathy, and is careful to find the best points and to exhibit them effectively. As a general characteristic she finds that Count Montalembert was born to be in opposition, and on this ground endeavours to reach the reason of many of the paradoxes and contradictions of his career. In several passages this idea is repeated, with some sense of iteration, it must be confessed, before we reach the end; but it is perhaps as powerfully set forth in this passage as in any:—

"After his first movement of exaltation and excitement on hearing the news of the Revolution (*i.e.*, of the Three Days), and almost in the same breath with his exclamation that it was very hard he could not be there to fight for the people, he had paused to say to himself that the people victorious would not long continue his idol—and that *a cause when triumphant had no attraction for him*; significant words, full of self insight, revealing the great secret of his after life. For he was born to be in opposition—an opposition with no revolutionary tendencies, lawful and loyal as opposition is in England—an idea which France, even now, has scarcely mastered, and never, except by moments, put in practice. Charles de Montalembert inherited this faculty, along with various others, in his English blood, and already felt its influence, without probably identifying what it meant or whence it came."

The reference to what Montalembert derived from his English blood is certainly by no means gratuitous in this connection; for there can be no doubt that much of his perversity of view—and occasionally it was nothing else—arose from this source, and from the contradictory influences with which in his earlier days he was surrounded. The picture which Mrs. Oliphant has given us of the "fond old man," Mr. Forbes, the grandfather, with his bookishness and his solicitous love for his darling child, which tended to develope an unhealthy precocity, is in every way masterly; and this early period was well worth the pains; for we can trace the effect of this solitary, although in every way tender and noble nurture, even unto the end. It is not without significance, therefore, that Mrs. Oliphant writes:—

"Mr. Forbes had made of himself a foundation and starting-point for his grandchild. His example of intellectual labour, industry, and order was never forgotten by the boy; and it was no doubt greatly instrumental in preserving him from the frivolities, and crowd of idle social occupations, which are so apt to suck the heart out of youth. The old man died, leaving all the collections of his life, the forty-two volumes of his big book, the result of all his laborious studies and researches—his very soul, so to speak—to his darling. Half a century has passed since that melancholy night at Aix-la-Chapelle, when, alone with the servant who accompanied them, little Charles watched through a dreadful night and saw his grandfather die; but the portrait of James Forbes still holds the place of honour in the library which his grandson has made illustrious, and in the house where a younger generation have learned to love and honour his memory."

It is scarcely possible, however, but that this isolation must have tended to breed an affectation of superiority to the social instincts, which was never really consonant with Montalembert's nature. His diary-keeping propensities, too, seem to have been derived from this source; and that sentimental self-analysis, which seems so utterly out of keeping with the natural determinations of a boy of twelve. "A tone of self-"dissatisfaction runs through all the childish "journal," Mrs. Oliphant admits, "though a "soft, little, spiritual sigh, a sense that he is "not doing what it is most noble to do, and "that life is coming while he is not preparing "for it, gives a higher sentiment to the whole."

At sixteen, Montalembert entered the College of Sainte Barbe, where he studied hard and highly distinguished himself, bracing himself consciously for the coming conflict, and seriously setting down thus his leading doctrine of life: "God and liberty—these are the two principal "motive-powers of my existence. To reconcile "these two perfections shall be the aim of my "life." After leaving college, Montalembert joined his father in Sweden, where he had been appointed ambassador. Here the young count saw something of society; but, by means of his grandfather's library, his interest in Ireland had been excited; and his admiration of the Liberator and his enthusiasm for him, led him to the idea of writing a History of Ireland. In order to get materials he determines on a tour in that country. The intention, at first abandoned, was revived on the first opportunity presenting itself. The description of this tour is very exquisite, as given by Mrs. Oliphant; but the most notable thing, as throwing light upon Count Montalembert's character, is the account of his visit to the house of O'Connell.

"When the great man appeared, he had but little time for his youthful visitor, whom he received kindly, and, probably with a good-natured notion that this was what he would like best, ushered him suddenly into the drawing room, to his utter consternation and bewilderment. . . . He had counted apparently on being received by his hero at a private audience, in which they should have discussed with befitting solemnity the great concern of freedom and piety. But to be thrust among a merry band of laughing Irish girls and young men, utterly unprepared for such society, and to find that he was expected, as a matter of course, to dine and sleep in the hospitable open house, drove him wild with consternation. . . . The political position held by O'Connell was so important an example for the Catholic party, and at a distance was so imposing, that when he returned to France into the society of those who still believed warmly in the Liberator, Montalembert warmed back into something of his old enthusiasm. But in the sincerity of his journal and straightforwardness of his youthful impressions, he measured the man at once, and formed an enlightened judgment of him. He perceived instantly that this figure, which had loomed so large through the mists, was not so imposing near at hand, and recorded the fact with ingenuous regret. Something indeed of the stunned sensation of one who has fallen from a lofty ideal height into very common-place reality, is evident in all he says."

In Ireland, he sees only what confirms his Catholicism: "he had come to see the Libe-"rator, from whom he derived not very much; "but, by the way, he had seen a worshipping "nation, and his imagination had been inspired "by the sight, and all his resolutions had "burst into flower."

He returns to Paris, and soon associates himself with his two famous friends, Lacordaire and Lamennais, in the *Avenir*, whose cause is "God and liberty." How nobly they wrote to free education from State trammels—the narrowing besetments of the Code Napoleon—and to obtain for Frenchmen the right of free meeting and other rights which the Church of Rome has never recognised or encouraged! Montalembert was a thorough aristocrat in sentiment, and yet he was a true Liberal by conviction; and herein may be the solution of some of the apparent paradoxes of his political career. Radicalism was, in his idea, the worst form of arbitrary rule and oppression; but a true Liberalism encouraged the sentiment of reverence which found fit object in the aristocracy. And here, too, it was that in his scheme the Church found its place, as expressing the sacred side of aristocracy. The *Avenir* soon came into collision with the authorities; and, in spite of the high place which it assigned to the Church, was looked on but coldly by the Church as by the State. This was a great sorrow to Montalembert, and a sudden humbling of the hopes of the great trio. Their resources ran short, and, receiving no encouragement from the powerful, they were compelled to stop. But they would not do so without a chivalrous demonstration. They would go to Rome and seek the Holy Father's approval and support to their scheme. They did go. "Of all the ex-"peditions undertaken in this century, we "doubt if there is one other as affecting, as re-"markable, as simple, as strange. They went "to their Pope with that absolute realisation "of their relationship to him as children to "their father, which is so confusing to the un-"imaginative soul. They took it for fact, "this theory, this matter of abstract belief, and "acted upon it, putting all ordinary mortals, "who keep facts and theories apart in their "distinct places, into such a ferment of em-"barrassment and bewilderment, as fortunately "occurs but seldom even in the wonderful "world of Rome."

So writes Mrs. Oliphant eloquently. But surely the sentimentality and utter inconsistency of the position cannot but force themselves upon the mind of the reader. A little band of fiery Liberals go to Rome to ask the Holy Father to sanction the propagation of ideas directly opposed to the continuance of the very system of which he is the head! Well may Mrs. Oliphant speak of a "simple faith"!

The result of that mission is known to all—how that the Pope received them with absolute indifference, and did not even gratify them by giving a decision in their case whilst they were still in Rome. When he did speak it was to tell them to hold their tongues. Montalembert and Lacordaire bowed before the decision of the Church, whilst Lamennais, much more fiery, though older than the others, proved somewhat more consistent in his self-assertion, and defied it, so that now he set out to walk in a different way from his two bosom friends. As for Montalembert, he "submitted to that sentence with "perfect docility and good grace so far as it "affected the *Avenir* and his own movements; "but he did not pretend to adopt, nor did he "ever feel it necessary to assent to, the opinion "of the Holy See in respect to the liberty of the "press."

After a year of wanderings, devoted for most part to visiting the shrines of the saints, Count Montalembert reached the age of twenty-five, and took his seat in the House of Peers. There he did noble work in the cause of the Church—though the Church regarded him with suspicion and treated him with ingratitude; and was ceaseless in his endeavours to put the national education of his country on a better footing. But, in spite of his noble devotion to what he deemed the good of his fellow-men, he never escaped a certain shade of suspicion; and in 1857 he lost his election as representative of the department of Doubs, where he was defeated by the Government candidate—proving that his support of Louis Napoleon and his justification of him on the ground of the services he had rendered to religion, had somehow failed of their proper effect. Montalembert's life thereafter was spent in quiet leisure—in the production of those works which have done so much to make him as well known in England as he is in France. He had spent most of his strength in the endeavour to throw round the Church of Rome a halo of attraction, and failed to see wherein he, in his very endeavour to prove her the mother of freedom, played false towards her real traditions. He tried to reconcile freedom, both individual and national, with the Church, and he failed, as he could not but fail, because such liberty is incompatible with the Church's traditions, and absolutely opposed to them. He justified himself on the ground that he was bound, as a son of the Church, to receive her decision on spiritual, but not on secular matters—an unallowed distinction which leads us to

* *Memoir of Count de Montalembert, Peer of France, Deputy for the Department of Doubs. A Chapter of Recent French History.* By Mrs. OLIPHANT, author of the "Life of Edward Irving," &c. In two volumes. (Blackwood and Sons.)

the very centre of Montalembert's most fatal inconsistencies. He was eloquent, brave, and devoted to the good of his country and the race: he had many traits of greatness; but he was wanting in the balance, the judgment, the calm sagacity which alone can form the great statesman. He was too fond of seeing things through a veil of sentiment, and of contemplating himself in what at least seem to be theatrical attitudes. His devotion to the Church, which in fact was the highest outcome of his sentimentality, was a chain which he dragged with him through life. But he had the very temperament of the speaker, and was one of the greatest orators which France has recently produced. There is a recurrent rise and swell—gathering ever toward a climax—in his compositions; he has the gift of seizing the imagination and holding it captive; his buoyant flight never flags. Words are his willing messengers, and yet the simplest are ever at his service. One of the most characteristic things is his firm but tender reproof to Mrs. Oliphant (which she frankly sets down here) for her long Latinised phraseology in her translation of his "Monks of the West," as it was first submitted to him.

His last days were peaceful: one of the most striking events connected with them being a sudden declaration for conventual life on the part of his daughter. She "inherited much of "her father's talent and many of his characteristics, and had made a brilliant entry into "'the world' some time before—a bright, lively, "and accomplished girl, worthy of her name and "paternity." And Mrs. Oliphant on this head has a very striking passage, full of pathetic tenderness:—

"Nothing could be more natural than that this choice should be made by the daughter of the historian of the cloister, the man who had done more than all his contemporaries put together to vindicate the motives and principles of the monastic orders. . . . The writer recalls to mind how one evening, in his house in Paris, M. de Montalembert showed her the portrait of this bride of heaven. He held up the lamp, shading it tenderly with his hand, that the light might fall soft and clear upon the beloved face—a face young and bright and serenely gay, with flowers crowning the beautiful hair; a young princess of society, surrounded by all the pretty finery of youth. To think of that graceful and delicate being in the bare rooms and ceaseless occupations of conventual life—her pretty surroundings all gone from her—her fair face encircled by the close cap of her order, her nights broken, her days full of toil, was still painful beyond expression to her father's heart. He set down his lamp with a pathetic smile which ended with a sigh. Thus smiling in her bridal dress she had gone away from him '*à ma grande désolation!*' Nothing could be more touching than this natural outburst of feeling. He must have felt that it was almost, so to speak, his own fault, who had thrown so much enchantment over the story of monastic institutions, and it might indeed seem as if Providence had exacted a hard price from him for his eloquence and devotion. More deeply than he had any expectation of, he could now enter into the struggle in which flesh and blood and all the delights of earth have to yield to spiritual life and its stern duties. Inspired by the unexpected sacrifice which was thus demanded of himself, he wrote the conclusion of the 'Monks of the West,' one of the most affecting utterances of suppressed emotion which perhaps has ever been put on record."

In its delicacy, in its fine insight and sympathy, no less than in its eloquence, Mrs. Oliphant's "Life of Montalembert," with all its faults, will take high rank among standard English biographies.

"*LETTERS TO THE SCATTERED.*"*

Mr. Lynch was by no means a systematic thinker, and he never affected such a distinction. He was versatile, varied, and had the power of charging all his thought with serious, practical aims. He could play with it, and throw over it a quaint rippling veil of humour that was distinctively rare and original. But, in spite of a certain sheltered purity about his thinking, his humour was not so much that of a recluse as that of a man of the world. He would quietly throw out a hint such as we would expect to find in a novel written by Thackeray rather than in a sermon; immediately afterwards, as it were, taking himself to task for advancing it as if he meant it for a whole truth. Quick to observe, and keen to distinguish, he was full of noble allowances; and could see where the most opposite truths may find a meeting point, and have their harmonising effect on character. It was this conviction that gave him his rare power in the pulpit. But then it was too persistently and consciously carried into all the labours of the pulpit, and imparted a sort of strained or even forced lyrical tensity to his preaching. Unless you came to him with sympathy, you were sure to miss much of his meaning. Certain things there were which no person of ordinary capacity could fail to catch if he listened at all with attention. The acute remarks on men and passing events were level to the minds of all. Though far enough from being a man of affairs, Mr. Lynch could handle these things in his preaching with quite peculiar skill, so as to make them cast light on spiritual things; and it was in the hurried relation established between the two that his humour most often lay. If he had not, in spite of his practicality, been to a large extent withdrawn from the world into a sphere of his own, he could never have dealt with such topics in the free and familiar manner he did without incurring some suspicion of irreverence. Yet he never did so; for the sense of a pervading and sanctifying purity was dominant. He could not perhaps be called deep, in the strict sense; and he scarcely laid any value on thinking on its own account. The multitude of his thoughts, enriched by happy contact with the main currents of present-day influence, came quietly forth, following an order of their own. The most lively and unexpected illustrations fell naturally into their places, and led on to others, yet a staid sobriety and keeping obtained throughout in spite of all the freedom and spontaneity, and the habit of associating things by their most arbitrary affinities.

The present volume is very miscellaneous in character; but it is perhaps on that account all the more characteristic. It consists mainly of articles which were originally contributed to the *Christian Spectator*, under the title of "Letters to the Scattered," and which we are assured those who read them in that form will be very glad to see in this more permanent one. Then there are added a number of pulpit meditations—full of the quaint, rich practicality that we never missed in him; and a few little sketches, which show us that the author of "Theophilus Trinal" might have been a novelist of no mean mark, had not the necessity of teaching been dominant and imperative. "William "Treville," the cripple, with his childlike wisdom and meek faith, is set before us with a few graphic touches and takes a grip of the imagination. "The Child's Last Fear," shows that he could readily command a simple pathos; and "Philip Herbertson on Preaching" and "What Advantage hath the Dissenter?" exhibit decided satirical power. But, as in the case of many others, Mr. Lynch was a fine literary man spoilt. He looked to a higher mistress than literature, and she claimed from him so much of his time and his strength that all he could yield to the other was but a few fragments. Such as we have let us enjoy; and be thankful that, with his feeble health and many trials, he was permitted to do so much. Perhaps the best way in which we can give our readers a taste of the volume is to select a few morsels of thought by way of sample, though we should not omit to say that "A Sabbath "Meditation and Christian Practicalness" should be read as wholes. They are very masterly specimens of their class.

"Dead theology," he says, "is a skull, and living theology is a skull too. But the one is hollow as a cavern, it has vacancy instead of eyes, and fronts you with a mournful grin; it is strong, but its strength is nobody's defence, unless the beetles' or the worms'. The other is the helmet of the living warrior—the palace and fortress of the living inhabitant. And so surely as the brain has its sheltering skull, so surely will living Christianity have a doctrinal tenement. And for residence and defence this must be strong and ample. . . . Friends, when it is wise, because a skull is hideous and dry, to say that brain and marrow have no need of bone, then it will be wise, because the Church of the living God has around it a neglected graveyard cumbered with fragments of dead theologies, to say that a really living religion can dispense with theology altogether."

And again of atonement:—

"The doctrine of the Atoning Providence comprises lessons concerning that wisdom whereby God is engaged in restoring and establishing order and happiness. We speak depressingly of Atonement, if we speak as if even every good deed of man required a solemn apology to God, as if there were no benign, familiar favour shown to us in our imperfect attempts to cheer us on, as if God made the worst of man's most perfect actions, instead of the best of his imperfect ones. Nothing can be an atonement between us and God that does not at once manifest Him as sincerely loving us and introduce us into a thankful accordance with His character and progress towards Him. . . . Atonement means God's own way of self-help in fulfilling the desires of His heart, which are to bring man out of the depravation and darkness of self-will into the excellent glory of holy happiness; it is the wise freewill of God through a Principal Sufferer, and His administration of the painstaking efforts of every faithful heart in every age, opposing the sinful free-will of the world, neutralising its effects, and compensating for the injuries and mischief it does."

Once more:—

"When Mendelssohn, that great religious master of music, would express to us that the waters are mighty, but that God is above them, the tones expressive of Divine power break in with sharp and sudden dissonance, and then the strain flows on in sweet, triumphant nobleness. And interruptive providences are dissonances which introduce fuller, finer music. And when such music as our spiritual life here can utter, defying and even sometimes becalming the great water floods, is itself broken by the dissonance of Death, it is but Eternity's Hallelujah breaking in upon Time's too plaintive anthem."

And once more still:—

"God will not keep us from mistakes. He will not speedily free us from our natural defects. He will make our mistakes subservient to our progress, and will enable us by persevering effort so to control and regulate our nature that defect shall have its influence limited. . . . . He does not expect wisdom from the foolish, nor strength from the weak. If we once get our souls into a deep and abiding impression that He has such continual regard for us that He ever has our welfare in view, and will make our errors instrumental to our knowledge, our sufferings to our joy and advancement, we shall not repine at being liable to error and exposed to pain."

The book is full of wise, brotherly, brave-hearted counsels, touched by the light of real experiences. We, therefore, cordially recommend it, anxious that others should share the refreshment we ourselves have derived from its perusal.

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* *Letters to the Scattered, and other Papers.* By THOMAS T. LYNCH, author of "Sermons for my Curates," the "Rivulet," &c. (Strahan and Co.)

Miscellaneous.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.—This popular place of amusement will close for the season on the 17th inst., until which time *My Aunt's Secret*, &c., will be continued under the auspices of Mr. and Mrs. German Reed and their accomplished company. The gallery is to reopen at the commencement of October, when novelties by Mr. F. C. Burnand, Mr. W. S. Gilbert, and other eminent authors will be produced.

THE BANK HOLIDAY.—Although there was a general observance of the bank holiday on Monday in all parts of the metropolis, the numbers leaving town by excursion trains did not come up to the expectations of the railway companies. For this, no doubt, the wretched weather was in a great degree responsible. Upwards of 32,000 persons visited the Crystal Palace, where there was a series of amusements extending from eleven o'clock in the morning to about ten o'clock at night. The Albert Hall, where there was a "National Holiday Festival Concert," in which Mr. Sims Reeves, Mdme. Parepa-Rosa, and Signor Foli, took part, was also well filled, and the Exhibition and other sights of London were largely patronised. A large number of people went down to Hastings, where Lord Granville opened the new pier which has just been completed there, but the rain greatly marred the effect of the ceremony, and at Canterbury the match between the North and South which was to have opened the cricket week, was postponed on account of the heavy rain.

A SEARCH FOR COAL IN KENT.—Science is about to attempt the solution of a problem which is of immediate interest to every householder in London and the south. It is nothing less than a search for coal under the rocks of the south-eastern counties. A committee of the British Association has been appointed to discover what is the order in which the strata lie under the Wealden which occupies a great part of Kent and Sussex; and a boring is to be commenced in the latter county on occasion of the meeting of the association at Brighton in the week after next. This boring is intended to go through the Wealden and the underlying secondary rocks to the Palæozoic strata which are supposed to lie still farther down at a depth of from seven hundred to seventeen hundred feet. It is expected by many geologists that at that depth coal measures will be found which will be practically a continuation of the Belgian coalfields on the east and the Somerset coalfields on the west.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.—The General Council of the Workmen's Peace Association have just issued their second annual report. According to its statements, during the year sixty-five public meetings have been held in favour of international arbitration, most of them in our large towns. The members and friends of the association have obtained 102,000 signatures to Parliamentary petitions, praying the Government to take the initiative in establishing a permanent system of international arbitration, while several organised bodies of working men, including the Birmingham, Preston, Oldham, Maidstone, and other trades councils, the Northumberland Miners' Association, and the last Trades Union Congress, which met at Nottingham, have adopted similar petitions, the total number of petitioners being nearly 500,000. In addition to the general and executive councils and staff in London, the association has in the provinces over one hundred agents, committees, and branches engaged in the work of propaganda. The income for the year has been 1,012*l.* 13s. 7d., while the expenditure has been 1,010*l.* 11s. 10½d. At the recently held annual meeting Mr. Edmond Beales was re-elected hon. president, Mr. B. Lucraft treasurer, and Mr. W. R. Cremer secretary. The council are preparing for another vigorous autumn and winter agitation in support of the motion which Mr. Henry Richard is to bring forward in the next session of Parliament.

THE FRUIT FAILURE.—From every part of our rural districts the most unfavourable reports come of the fruit crop. The orchards of the West of England, which generally by their abundance of rosy fruit attract the attention of the numerous excursionists who pass by them, are now of an almost uniform sombreness of dark green leaves. The *Gardener's Magazine* says the fruit crop generally is probably the smallest that the most experienced and observant cultivator can call to remembrance.

It is certainly but little better than no crop at all, and in many fruit-growing districts will not pay for gathering, and therefore, perhaps, will be lost entirely. The imports of fruit from the continent have been very much below the average hitherto this year, and the fact suggests itself that our neighbours across the Channel are in much the same plight as ourselves as respects this season's product of fruit. The peach-wall is as barren as the apple-orchard; there are very few plums or cherries; pears are thinly sprinkled, but what few there are exceed the average in size and beauty; and bush-fruits, which never fail entirely, have been fairly plentiful in sheltered gardens, but lamentably scarce taking the country through. There can be no mystery about the cause of the general barrenness of the fruit-garden. The crop was ruined by the second winter that distinguished the month of March and great part of the month of April. A heavy fall of snow occurred just in time to cripple the new growth and destroy the incipient fruit of the wall trees. When the orchard trees were, later than usual, pushing into bloom, bitter east winds and sharper frosts prevailed, and, instead of producing apples, and pears, and plums, and cherries, they gave birth to frightful crowds of black-fly and hairy caterpillars.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S VISIT TO THE AMERICAN SQUADRON.—The visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to the American squadron in Southampton Water on Wednesday, though as private as visit as could be paid by persons in the high position of the prince and princess to any representative body at home or abroad, afforded the occasion for an agreeable interchange of civilities. An account in the *Times* of the dinner given by the prince in the evening in his royal yacht Victoria and Albert at East Cowes to the American Admiral and his officers, says:—"The prince wore plain evening dress, his star and riband, and at 7.40 he led his guests to the dinner saloon. Among the company there were, in addition to the American and British officers, Captain the Prince of Leiningen, General Schenck, the Duke of St. Albans, the Marquis of Lorne, Lord Colville, Lord Otho Fitzgerald, Captain Lord Gilford, R.N., General Sherman, the Bishop of Ohio, Admiral Sir Rodney Mundy, Rear-Admiral Sir Leopold M'Clintock, and the Right Hon. Milner Gibson. At the end of dinner, the Prince of Wales said that although there were to be no "speeches," he had to propose one toast, which he was sure would be most heartily received in that company; but before he did so he wished to express the pleasure it gave him to have so many distinguished officers as his guests that evening, and to say how much gratified the princess and he had been gratified by their visit to the United States squadron that day. He gave, "The Health of the President of the United States, and that the United States and Great Britain may long be bound together by the ties of mutual good will and friendship." This toast was most warmly received, and General Schenck rose to return thanks for the toast, and to propose, "The Health of the Queen," which he did briefly but effectively, giving point to his remarks by a little illustration. An American lady was asked who were at a certain evening party. "Oh, papa," she replied, "there were some English and Americans, and a lot of foreigners." The distinguished party did not separate till nearly eleven o'clock. The yachts, men-of-war, and clubhouse illuminated, burned coloured lights, threw up rockets, and made the night brilliant when they came on deck.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SCHOOL, LONDON.—The prizes at this school were distributed on Thursday last, and the ceremony was, as usual, attended by large members of the boys' friends. Mr. G. Buchanan presided. The very lengthy list of prizes and commendations was read by the Vice-Master, Mr. Horton, and occupied no less than two hours and a half. The chief honours of the day fell to H. F. Morley, head of the school, and to Davioku Kikuchi, of Yeddo. The chairman, after delivering some nine prizes to the latter, remarked that the progress now making by his country was so rapid that we might expect before long to be sending our English boys to receive their education in Japan; and he only trusted that whenever that day arrived our own aspirants might show the same industry and ability which characterised his countrymen in the prosecution of their studies in Western lands. The chairman, in his subsequent address, dwelt with the enthusiasm of an "Old Boy" on the many former prizemen he had in mind who had made for themselves reputations in almost every walk of life, and quoted largely from the list of external honours for the current year in illustration of the wide range and cosmopolitan character of the school. The list comprised three Fellowships in the Royal Society, a Professorship at Zurich, a Professorship at Pesth, a Fellowship at Trinity College, Cambridge, two Examinerships, a Doctorate in Science, a Classical Scholarship, two Exhibitions and a prize in the University of London, the First Senior Moderatorship at Dublin, the first place in the Natural Science Tripos at Cambridge, the second place at the Award of Commissions in the Royal Military Academy (Engineers) at Woolwich, an Associateship in the Royal School of Mines, a Travelling Studentship and two Admissions in the Royal Academy of Arts, and two Scholarships, two Exhibitions, two gold medals and one silver medal, and fifteen prizes in University College, London. Dr. Buchanan remarked further on the rapid growth of the school, especially during the last three years, within which it had increased from 377 to 550 boys, and congratulated the college that, through the munificence of its friends, it was in a position to commence at once the vastly-needed extension of the south wing, with a view to the better accommodation of the school. The head master, Professor Key, concluded the proceedings by a vote of thanks to the Chairman, himself not the least distinguished among the pupils of whose career the school had reason to be proud.

THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACTS.—On Thursday a deputation of working men from different parts of the country waited upon Mr. Bruce to urge upon the Government the repeal of the Contagious Diseases Acts. Mr. Miller, M.P., Mr. M'Laren, M.P., and Mr. Mundella, M.P., were also present. Mr. Morley, M.P., briefly introduced the deputation. He said he had not previously taken part in this question, which he looked at with a great deal of repugnance. As the acts were opposed, however, to the genuine religious and moral feelings of the people, he was prepared to join in any efforts to repeal them. Several of the deputation addressed the Home Secretary, all threatening to make it a party question at the next general election. Mr. Bruce, in reply, said there was one matter to which he took objection—viz., the way in which the deputation put their case. While earnestly expressing their own opinions of the immoral tendency and wickedness of those acts, and their tendency to endanger the religion and the morality of the population, they seemed to forget that they were supported by a great number of men whom, in all Christian charity, they must believe to be as good Christians as themselves. It had been said by the gentleman from Plymouth (where the acts were in force) that the majority of the population were opposed to these acts, yet it was undoubtedly true that a very large portion of the population viewed with very great apprehension, and even with terror and alarm, a return to the state of things which existed before these laws were in force. He urged upon the deputation patience, moderation, and Christian charity; and he reminded them that, though the report of the Royal Commission recommended the repeal of the acts, yet that was on grounds very different from those which had been expressed by the deputation. After a most careful examination of the working of the acts, he maintained the views he originally expressed, that they had done much positive good. Whether their ultimate tendency would be evil, as one speaker had affirmed it would, it was for time to show. It was always a mischief when an act of Parliament did not carry with it the assent of the thinking part of the population; and though the discussion of these acts was disagreeable, still he should have preferred it before these acts had passed. Another opinion he maintained as strongly as when he brought in the bill to repeal these acts—that they could not justify the retention of the acts, which were applicable only to a very limited part of the population. These acts had been justified on the ground of their moral tendencies. If that were so it was clearly their duty to apply them to the whole country. That was not his view; and to his mind that was their condemnation, though it was on the ground of expediency rather than from the deputation's point of view that he had come to this conclusion. He was not revealing a State secret when he said that a very large portion of the Government were of opinion that there was much in these acts that was doing good, quite apart from their effect upon the army and navy. These were also the opinions of as good, earnest Christian men as any in that room; and he hoped, therefore, that in the agitation which they had spoken of as about to begin, some regard would be paid to the sentiments of those who differed from them. He instanced the opposite views of Mr. Fawcett and Mrs. Garrett-Anderson on this subject as a warning that the deputation should be guarded and careful in expressing their opinions. He had no reason to believe that the Government would change their programme. He introduced a bill which, he believed, was not fairly exposed to the objections that had been taken to the acts which it proposed to repeal. He believed it would have done very great good, although there might be a return of some of the mischief in those towns over which the acts were in force; but still the general good done in repressing vice would have amply compensated for any loss by taking the acts from those partly affected districts. He reminded them that a deputation of 154 members of Parliament had lately been before him (and that number could have been greatly added to, he believed) who were opposed to the repeal of the acts. In view of this opposition, and the great pressure of other business, the Government had withdrawn their bill. The deputation then retired.

HOW TO DYE SILK, WOOL, FEATHERS, RIBBONS, &c., in ten minutes, without soiling the hands. Use Judson's Simple Dyes, eighteen colours, 6d. each, full instructions supplied. Of all chemists. The "Family Herald," Sept. 3, says, "A very slight acquaintance with Judson's Dyes will render their application clear to all."

A REAL SUMMER DELICACY.—WEST INDIA LIMES.—It ought to be generally known that the delicate aroma and refreshing properties of the West India lime fruit are preserved from deterioration, without the aid of alcohol, by a process patented by Messrs. Rose and Co., Leith and London. The *Citrus limetta*, or lime fruit, is extensively cultivated in the West Indies; its juice possesses valuable medicinal properties, cooling and purifying the blood, beneficial in rheumatism, and antiscorbutic. The patent preserved lime juice, cordial, syrup, and champagne, as manufactured by Messrs. Rose and Co. from this fruit, possess all the above valuable properties while furnishing delicious, cooling, and refreshing beverages particularly adapted for summer use. They have received the highest recommendations from the *Lancet*, *Scientific Review*, and other eminent journals for their purity and excellence, and may be obtained everywhere in town and throughout the kingdom. Wholesale stores, 16, Bishopsgate-avenue, Camomile-street, London, and at the Refinery, Leith.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTH.

WILLIS.—August 2, at Cleveland House, Eaton, Norwich, Mrs. Colman Willis, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

SOUTHWELL—THOMSON.—July 27, at Brighton, by the Rev. Paxton Hood, Edward Joseph Southwell, of Kidbrooke Park, Vestry Clerk of Mile-end Old-Town, to Elizabeth Thomson, widow of Charles Thomson, Esq., of Mason's-hall, Browley, Kent.

PAGE—SPURGEON.—July 30, at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, by the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, brother of the bride, Thos. C. Page, solicitor, Newington Butts, to Caroline Louisa, daughter of Rev. John Spurgeon, of Brixton and Fetter-lane Chapel.

AVELING—FRANK.—July 30, at Union Chapel, Islington, by the father of the bridegroom, E. B. Aveling, Esq., B.Sc., to Isabel Campbell, younger daughter of the late John Frank, Esq., of Amherst-road, Kingsland.

MASON—EDWARDS.—July 31, at Robertson-street Chapel, Hastings, Joseph Hagger, son of Mr. J. Mason, of Hoddesdon, Herts, to Harriette Winter, daughter of Mr. T. Edwards, of Hastings.

BRIGSTOCK—HARVEY.—Aug. 1, at St. Paul's Chapel, Hawley-road, N.W., by the Rev. Ed. White, John Wm. Brigstock, to Emma Mary, second daughter of Samuel Harvey, of London and Constantinople.

GEORGE—PEGLER.—Aug. 1, at Portland Chapel, Southampton, by the Rev. Charles Williams, of Accrington, William Bentley, yougest son of the late Josiah George, J.P., of Romsey, to Janet, second daughter of Alfred Pegler, J.P., of Maybush Lodge, Old Shirley, Southampton.

BOLTON—HARTLEY—Aug. 1, at Hare Court Chapel, Canonbury, by the Rev. A. Raleigh, D.D., Charles Bolton, 10, Clifton-grove, Graham-road, Dalston, to Ellen Jane, youngest daughter of F. J. Hartley, Esq., Laurel House, Graham-road, Dalston.

DEATHS.

CUMMING.—July 31, at 229, Duke-street, Glasgow, Agnes, aged 32 years, youngest daughter of Robert Cumming, Mill Manager. She died in the faith and hope of the Gospel.

ROBINSON—Aug. 3, at Woodridings, Pinner, Mary, the wife of the Rev. J. Robinson, of the London City Mission, aged 75.

SCRUTTON—Aug. 4, at Blackheath Park, A. Scrutton, Esq., of the Stock Exchange, aged 75.

NOTICE.—The clergy and gentry are respectfully informed that Messrs. Dollond have removed from 59, St. Paul's Churchyard, to No. 1, Ludgate-hill, where Spectacles and Eyeglasses may be had to suit every peculiarity of sight.—Trial glasses sent to any part of the kingdom carriage free. No Travellers employed. Established 1750.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's *Gazette*.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, July 31.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£37,203,995	Government Debt.	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	3,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	22,203,995
		Silver Bullion	
	£37,203,995		£37,203,995

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Propr'tor's Capit'l	£14,553,000	Government Securities, (inc. dead weight annuity)	£13,385,646
Rest..... ..	3,455,339		
Public Deposits ..	6,710,987	Other Securities ..	26,324,658
Seven Day and other Bills	409,276	Notes	10,855,870
		Gold & Silver Coin	622,073
	£51,258,247		£51,258,247

Aug. 1, 1872. FRANK MAY, Deputy Chief Cashier.

GOOD VALUE FOR MONEY is desired by all, but with articles that cannot be judged of by appearance, careful purchasers rely on the high standing of those with whom they deal. For thirty years, Horniman's Pure Teas in packets have given general satisfaction, being exceedingly strong, of *uniform good quality, and truly cheap*. (2,538 Agents are appointed.)

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, Aug. 2.

The Supplies of both English and foreign wheat this week are moderate. We have steady, healthy demand, at the prices of Monday last. Flour is without change in value. Barley meets free inquiry, and we have no change of this article or maize, beans, and peas. The arrivals of oats are liberal, which meet fair demand, and without change in value. We have few arrivals of cargoes, and prices are supported for wheat, maize, and barley.

CURRENT PRICES.

	Per Qr. s.	s.		Per Qr. s.	s.
WHEAT—			PEAS—		
Essex and Kent, red..	—	to —	Grey	32	to 34
Ditto new.. ..	52	to 61	Maple	37	40
White	—	—	White	36	39
„ new ..	58	65	Boilers	36	39
Foreign red ..	55	57	Foreign	36	38
„ white ..	59	62	RYE—	36	38
BARLEY—			OATS—		
English malting	29	32	English feed ..	20	25
Chevalier.. ..	36	42	„ potato..	25	32
Distilling.. ..	29	33	Scotch feed ..	—	—
Foreign	28	51	„ potato..	—	—
MALT—			Irish Black ..	17	20
Pale..	—	—	„ White ..	17	21
Chevalier.. ..	—	—	Foreign feed ..	15	17
Brown	52	58	FLOUR—		
BEANS—			Town made ..	48	54
Ticks	32	34	Best country households ..	41	44
Harrow	34	36	Norfolk & Suffolk	39	41
Small	—	—			
Egyptian.. ..	31	32			

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, Aug. 2.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 1,359 head. In the corresponding week in 1871 we received 21,993; in 1870, 9,884; in 1869, 11,142; and in 1868, 10,862 head. The cattle trade to-day

has been in a quiet state, despite the shortness of supplies. English breeds have not been plentiful, nevertheless the demand has lacked activity. For the best breeds 6s. to 6s. 2d. per 8lbs. has been paid. Foreign stock has been less plentiful. There have been 203 from Oporto, 230 Dutch, 42 Gothenburg. The choicest animals have been disposed of at from 5s 6d. to 5s. 10d. per 8lbs. No Tonning beasts have been on sale, but there are 1,730 at Deptford, in addition to 130 from Hamburg. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire we received about 750 Shorthorns, &c.: from Norfolk and Suffolk, 250 Scots and crosses; from other parts of England 300 various breeds; and from Ireland, 38 Oxen. Sheep have been in scanty supply. Not much business has been doing. The very choicest Downs have made 7s. per 8lbs., but 6s. 8d. to 6s. 10d. per 8lbs. has been the general top quotation. Lambs have sold at from 7s. 4d. to 8s. 8d. per 8lbs. Calves have been quiet at late rates. Pigs have sold at previous currencies.

Per 8lbs., to sink the offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3	2 to 3	6		Prime Southdown	6	8	6	10
Second quality	3	10	4	6	Lge coarse calves	4	8	5	0
Prime large oxen	5	8	5	10	Prime small	5	6	6	0
Prime Scots	6	0	6	2	Large hogs	3	8	4	4
Coarse inf. sheep	4	0	4	8	Neat sm. porkers	4	8	5	0
Second quality	5	0	5	8	Lamb	7	4	8	8
Pr. coarse woolled	6	0	6	6					

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, Aug. 5.—Moderate supplies of meat have been on sale. The trade has been slow, at our quotations.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior beef	3	4 to 3	10		Middling do.	5	6 to 5	10	
Middling do.	4	2	4	8	Prime do.	6	0	6	4
Prime large do.	5	0	5	4	Large pork	3	4	3	8
Prime small do.	5	4	5	6	Small do.	4	4	4	8
Veal	5	0	5	8	Lamb	6	4	7	0
Inferior Mutton	5	0	5	6					

PROVISIONS, Friday, Aug. 2.—The sale for both Irish and foreign butter is slow, with little change in prices; for the finest qualities full rates obtained, but other descriptions rather lower. The bacon market has ruled slow; no change in value of best Waterford sizeable, but Limerick and Cork meat 2s. lower.

COVENT GARDEN, Friday, Aug. 2.—The supply of soft fruit is now becoming limited, and the prices of most sorts have somewhat advanced. Large arrivals of West India pines are to hand, in good condition. Continental shipments are heavy, gages and plums being the chief items.

HOPS.—Borough, Friday, Aug. 2.—Owing to the favourable prospects of the new crop, our market has this week been exceedingly quiet, consumers only satisfying their immediate wants, and holders making further reductions to effect sales. Continental reports continue good. Latest advices from America are not favourable. It is anticipated the whole of their growth will be required for home consumption, and they may probably require to import both English and continental hops. Mid and East Kent, 10*l.* 10s., 12*l.* 12s., to 15*l.* 15s.; Weald, 7*l.*, 8*l.*, 10s. to 9*l.*; Sussex, 7*l.* 7*l.* 15s., to 8*l.* 8s.; Farnham and country, 11*l.* 11s., 13*l.* 13s. Yearlings—Mid and East Kent, 3*l.*, 3*l.* 15s., to 5*l.*; Weald of Kent, 3*l.*, 3*l.* 10s., to 4*l.* 15s.; Sussex, 2*l.* 16s., 3*l.* 10s., to 4*l.* 10s.; Farnham and country, 6*l.* to 7*l.*; Olds, 1*l.*, 1*l.* 5s., to 1*l.* 10s.

POTATOES.—Borough and Spitalfields, Monday, Aug. 5.—Limited supplies of potatoes have been on sale. The trade has been steady at our quotations:—Shaws, 70s. to 90s. per cwt.; Regents, 80s. to 90s.; Kent Regents, 100s. to 120s.

SEED, Friday, Aug. 2.—There has been little passing in any articles of the trade since Monday. No English cloverseed showing, American red continues to be held firmly, the stock being low and in few hands. The quality of new English trefoil will be very various, some very low. French offers at quite moderate rates for forward delivery. English trifolium runs from very fine to much discoloured, the latter at a low price. New English rapeseed taken in small lots at the quotations of Monday for sowing. White mustardseed moves off in small lots on former terms; nothing done in brown. Other seeds unchanged.

WOOL, Saturday, August 3.—The wool market has been steady in tone, the actual business concluded, though only moderate, has been on a more liberal scale, and prices are firm.

OIL, Saturday, August 3.—Linseed oil has been easier, and rape has been quiet. Other oils have been dull.

Advertisements.

MORNINGTON CHURCH, Hampstead-road, is CLOSED for a short time. Due notice will be given of the re-opening.

FURNISHED HOUSE TO LET for a Month. Three sitting-rooms, five bedrooms, and one dressing-room. Bracing air, pleasantly situated, within thirty-five minutes of Waterloo and London Bridge. Terms, five pounds a week.—Address, B. S., Post-office, Epsom.

Patronised by the CROWN PRINCESS of PRUSSIA, the SULTAN of TURKEY, and the NAWAB NAZIM of BENGAL.

SEWING MACHINES,
From £2 2s. to £25.
The only
Establishment in London
where the
opportunity is afforded
of
inspecting and comparing
every
description of
SEWING MACHINES.

It is absurdly claimed for almost every Sewing Machine, of whatever description, that it is superior to all others, for all purposes.

SMITH and CO., having no interest in selling any particular Machine, are enabled to recommend impartially the one best suited for the work to be done, and offer this GUARANTEE to their Customers:—Any Machine sold by them may be EXCHANGED after one month's trial, for any other kind, without charge for use.

SMITH & CO., 4, Charles-street, Soho, W.
(Four doors from Oxford-street.)

CHOIRS AND CONGREGATIONAL SINGING-CLASSES Formed and Trained, including Psalmody, Chants, and Anthems. Also, if required, Lectures on the principles of Music and Singing, bearing more particularly on the "Service of Song." Arrangements can now be made for the coming autumn and winter in London and suburbs. Great experience.—Address, Mr. J. A. Johnson, Knight's Hill, Norwood, S.E.

AN elderly invalid LADY, of moderate means, WISHES to find a quiet comfortable HOME in a healthy country town or village, within one or two hours' railway journey of Liverpool. A Medical Man's or a Minister's Family preferred. References given and required. —Address, stating terms, &c., to E. Y., Berry-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, in a Gentleman's Family, within an hour of London by rail, a Lady or a Gentleman and his Wife as INMATES. There are extensive pleasure-grounds and every comfort and convenience. Liberal terms would be expected.—Address, B. G. S., 117, Chancery-lane, W.C.

ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE for INFANTS, HORNSEY RISE, N.

CANDIDATES may at once be put upon the List for ELECTION. There are Vacancies for 100, the Infant Orphans of Clerks, Shopmen, Warehousemen, Skilled Mechanics, and others.

CONTRIBUTIONS for the support of the Orphanage are earnestly solicited. This is not an endowed charity, but depends entirely upon the voluntary support of the public.

JOSEPH SOUL, Hon. Sec.

Office, 73, Cheapside, E.C.

CHRISTIAN EVIDENCE SOCIETY.

The Rev. Sir EDWARD R. JODRELL, Bart., has munificently OFFERED another sum of £1,000 to the above Society (in addition to the £1,000 recently given by him), provided that a like sum be raised from other sources by Jan. 1, 1873.

CONTRIBUTIONS, in order to meet this generous offer, will be thankfully received by Major-General Burrows, Hon. Sec., or the Rev. P. Barker, Sec., at the Offices of the Society, 2, Duke-street, Adelphi, W.C.

Cheques should be crossed Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co.

CONFERENCE on ELECTORAL REFORM.—REDISTRIBUTION of SEATS.

A CONFERENCE convened by the Electoral Reform Association of Representatives of Reform Associations, Liberal Electoral Committees, and others, to discuss grievances arising out of the present imperfect system of representation, will be held at ST. JAMES'S HALL, London, on the 12th November, at Eleven o'clock. Reform Associations, Liberal Committees, and others, are invited to nominate Representatives to attend such Conference.

A Public Meeting will be held in the Evening of the same day, in support of the Resolutions adopted by the Conference.

Further information may be obtained on application by letter to the "Committee," Electoral Reform Association, 20, Regent-street, Waterloo-place, London, S.W.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

The main object of the Society is the improvement of the condition of the poor (1) by bringing about co-operation between the Charities and the Poor Law, and among the Charities; (2) by securing due investigation and fitting action in all cases; and (3) repressing mendicity.

The funds of the Council and of the District Committees are distinct. The funds of the Council are for the purposes of administration and organization only.

CONTRIBUTIONS towards the expenses of the Council can be paid at the central office, 15, Buckingham-street, Adelphi, or to the account of the Charity Organization Society, at Messrs. Coutts and Co.'s, 59, Strand, W.C.

C. B. P. BOSANQUET, Secretary.
C. J. RIBTON-TURNER, Organising Secretary.

NATIONAL INSTITUTION for DISEASES of the SKIN.

Physician—Dr. BARR MEADOWS, 49, Dover-street, W.

Patients attend at 227, Gray's-inn-road, King's-cross, on Mondays and Thursdays, and at 10, Mitre-street, Aldgate, on Wednesdays and Fridays. Mornings at Ten; Evenings, Six till Nine.

Free to the necessitous poor; payment required from other applicants.

THOMAS ROBINSON, Hon. Sec.

OPEN-AIR MISSION.

The NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT is now ready, and may be had free. Additional FUNDS will be gladly received at the Bankers, Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., 1, Pall Mall East, S.W., and at the Office, 11, Buckingham-street, Adelphi, W.C.

ARTHUR KINNAIRD, Treasurer.
JOHN MACGREGOR, Hon. Sec.
GAWIN KIRKHAM, Secretary.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM, for the EDUCATION of the SONS of MINISTERS.

This SCHOOL will REOPEN on Monday, 19th inst. Principal—Rev. T. RUDD, B.A.

Applications for admission to be made to the Hon. Sec., Rev. JOSIAH VINEY, Highgate, London, N.

TETTENHALL COLLEGE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

Head Master.

ALEXANDER WAUGH YOUNG, Esq., M.A., Lond. (Gold Medalist in Classics); late Andrews' Scholar, and First Prizeman in Higher Senior Mathematics, of University College, London; Fellow of University College, London.

Second Master.

JAMES SHAW, Esq., Peel Exhibitioner, Queen's University, Ireland; and First of First Class in Classical Honours at the First B.A. Examination, London University.

Assistant Masters.

MARTIN F. SHORT, Esq., B.A., and Prizeman of Corp. Christi College, Cambridge, Classics and English Language.
JOSEPH K. BARNES, Esq., English and Chemistry.
HENRY TAYLOR, Esq., English.
HERMANN POMNITZ, Esq., Certificated by the Imperial Prussian Government, and by the University of Paris, Music and Foreign Languages.
ARCHIBALD GUNN, Esq., Student Royal Academy of Arts, London, Drawing.
Resident Lady Matron, Miss BAYLISS.

Applications to Head Master, or to the Hon. Sec., S. DICKINSON, Esq., Wolverhampton.

MILL HILL SCHOOL, MIDDLESEX,

Head Master—

RICHARD F. WEYMOUTH, Esq., D. Lit. and M.A., Fellow of Univ. Coll., Lond.; Member of the Council of the Philological Society, &c., &c.

Vice-Master—

Rev. ROBERT HARLEY, F.R.S., F.R.A.S., Corresponding Member of the Literary and Philosophic Society of Manchester, Member of the London Mathematical Society, formerly Professor of Mathematics and Logic in Airedale College, Bradford, &c.

Assistant Masters—

A. H. SCOTT WHITE, Esq., B.A., Prizeman in Anglo-Saxon and Early English of Univ. Coll., London.
JAMES H. MURRAY, Esq., F.E.I.S., Member of the Council of the Philological Society, one of the Editors of the Publications of the Early English Text Society, Author of "The Dialect of the Southern Counties of Scotland," &c., &c.
JAMES NETTLESHIP, Esq., B.A., Scholar and Prizeman of Christ's Coll., Camb.; 2nd Class Classical Tripos, 1866.

Resident Lady Matron—Miss COOKE.

The MICHAELMAS TERM commences on Thursday, 26th September.

For Prospectuses and further information, apply to the Head Master, at the School, or to the Secretary, the Rev. R. H. MARTEN, B.A., Lee, S.E.

MERTON HOUSE COLLEGIATE ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG LADIES, ST. JAMES'S ROAD, WEST CROYDON.

There are a few VACANCIES, which may be filled on moderate terms. Educational advantages great, and domestic arrangements unusually good. Efficient Masters in attendance. Resident English and Foreign Governesses. Pupils prepared for the Public Examinations. Training Class for Little Girls under ten years of age.

Principal—Mrs. DIX.

EDUCATION—WEST HOUSE, THE WOODLANDS, REDHILL, about half an hour's ride from London, either by the London and Brighton or the South-Eastern Railway. Situation high and very healthy. An extensive common in the immediate vicinity. Comfortable home; sound and comprehensive Education.—Prospectuses forwarded on application to the Principal, JOHN HILL, M.A.

GET THE BEST.

THE CROWN HAIR RESTORER

IS RECOMMENDED to those who wish to restore gray hair to its natural colour.
IS RECOMMENDED to those who wish to prevent their hair from falling off.
IS RECOMMENDED to those who wish to prevent their hair from turning gray.
IS RECOMMENDED to those who wish a pleasant and fragrant Pomade.
IS RECOMMENDED to those who wish a perfectly harmless preparation simply for dressing the hair.
IS RECOMMENDED to all, from the nursery to old age, producing the effects required by Hair Restorers and the luxury of a Pomade.

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY

THE CROWN PERFUMERY COMPANY,
WHOLESALE AND EXPORT PERFUMERS,
40, STRAND, LONDON.
For sale everywhere at 3s. 6d. and 7s. per bottle.

HASTINGS.

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL.

Principal—Mr. JOHN STEWART, A.C.P.

Vice-Principal—Mr. E. A. BUTLER, B.A. (Lon.).

Three Pupils have this year passed the London University Matriculation Examination in the First Class, and Eight the last Cambridge Examination; one in First Class Honours and one in Second Class Honours.

The NEXT TERM will commence on the 19th of SEPTEMBER.

HEATHFIELD, STONYGATE, LEICESTER.

EDUCATION for YOUNG LADIES, Conducted by the Misses MIALL.

French, Italian, Latin, and German, Music, Singing, and Drawing, Dancing and Calisthenics, taught exclusively by the Masters assigned to them.

The English studies are under the immediate direction of the Misses Miall and competent Governesses.

The house is large and airy, situated in a high and healthy ocality, surrounded by a good garden.

Terms, with references, forwarded on application.

HIGHBURY HOUSE SCHOOL ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.

Upper, Middle, and Preparatory Departments

Classics, Mathematics, Modern Languages, and thorough English.

Kinder-Garten and Pestalozzian Classes for Little Boys.

The comfort and health of delicate boys especially studied.

A liberal table and watchful care.

Head Master—Rev. W. WOODING, B.A.

For Prospectus apply to Mrs. Duff, Highbury House, St. Leonard's.

BRAMHAM HOUSE SCHOOL, SURBITON, S.W.

The Session closed on the 25th inst., when the Rev. W. Jones, who carefully examined the work and gave an excellent address to the Pupils, expressed his great satisfaction with the thoroughness of the work done, and the fact that ALL the Pupils were so thoroughly taught and not a few prominent ones presented to his notice.

The NEXT SESSION will open on the 28th AUGUST.

A few vacancies. Apply to Mr. R. Philpott.

THE VALE ACADEMY, RAMSGATE.

Principal—Mr. M. JACKSON.

The NEXT TERM begins on SEPTEMBER 3rd.

Prospectuses, &c., on application.

FERN HOUSE, BRENTWOOD, ESSEX

The Misses MABBS RECEIVE TEN YOUNG LADIES to Board and Educate, endeavouring to combine family training and home comforts with a superior education and the discipline of school.

The AUTUMN TERM will commence MONDAY, Sept. 16.

FELIX HOUSE, TOTTENHAM, N.,

EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT, conducted by the Misses MURRY. Attendant Professors for French, Music, and Drawing. An Articled Pupil can be received in September. Referees:—Rev. Arthur Hall, Rev. J. C. Harrison, Rev. J. de Kewer Williams, and the Parents of Pupils.

TUDOR HALL LADIES' COLLEGE, FOREST HILL, SYDENHAM, LONDON.

PRINCIPALS—Mrs. TODD and Rev. J. W. TODD, D.D.

PROFESSORS.

English Literature	Mrs. C. L. BALFOUR.
Botany	Prof. BENTLEY, King's Coll.
French Language	Dr. MANDROU.
German Language	Dr. GERNER.
Italian Language	Signor SUINO.
English Composition ...	FITZHERBERT WILLIAMS.
Globes and Natural Science .	E. H. COTTON, M.A.
Music—Theory, &c. ...	JOHN BLOCKLEY, Esq.
Piano and Harmonium ...	Herr LOUIS DIEHL.
Singing and Organ	JAMES COWARD, Esq.
Drawing and Painting ...	R. W. BUSS, Esq.
Geology and Biblical Studies	Rev. J. W. TODD, D.D., F.G.S.

Terms and Particulars on application.

STROUD LADIES' COLLEGE, BEECHES' GREEN, STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Principals—The Misses HOWARD.

AUTUMN TERM will BEGIN THURSDAY, Sept. 19th.

36, HILLDROP-ROAD, LONDON, N.

LADIES' SCHOOL, conducted by the Misses HEWITT, assisted by superior English and Foreign Masters.

The Year is divided into Three Terms.

WESTWOOD PARK HOUSE COLLEGE for YOUNG GENTLEMEN, FOREST-HILL, SYDENHAM.

PRINCIPAL—

The Rev. H. J. CHANCELLOR.

The Course of Instruction includes, besides the usual English Studies, Algebra and Geometry; Book-keeping; Natural Science; Elocution, English Composition and Literature; the Latin, Greek, and French and German Languages.

Pupils are prepared for the Oxford or Cambridge Local Examinations.

The Year is divided into three Sessions.

MASTERS.

Music, Instrumental, and Vocal—JOHN BLOCKLEY, Esq., jun.
Drawing, Modelling, and Perspective—R. W. BUSS, Esq.
French and Mathematics—M. MANDROU, Esq., M.A., Paris Academy.
German—Herr OTTO GERNER.
Natural Science—THOS. JONES, Esq., F.G.S., F.R.A.S.

VICTORIA VILLA, FINCHLEY, N.

ESTABLISHMENT FOR YOUNG LADIES, Conducted by Mrs. WASHINGTON WILKS. The course of instruction embraces the usual branches of a thorough English education, with the French and German Languages; also Piano, Singing, and Drawing taught by competent Masters.

LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY.

Established 1836.

Subscribed capital, £2,500,000, in 50,000 Shares of £50 each.

Paid-up capital, £1,000,000. Reserve Fund, £500,000.

DIRECTORS.

Nathaniel Alexander, Esq.	Ed. Harbord Lushington, Esq.
Thos. Tyringham Bernard, Esq.	James Morley, Esq.
	William Nicol, Esq.
Thomas Stock Cowie, Esq.	Abraham Hodgson Philpotts, Esq.
Frederick Francis, Esq.	
Frederick Harrison, Esq.	James Duncan Thomson, Esq.
Wm. Champion Jones, Esq.	Frederick Youle, Esq.

General Manager—William McKewan, Esq.
Chief Inspector—W. J. Norfolk, Esq.
Inspectors of Branches—H. J. Lemon and C. Sherring, Esqrs.
Chief Accountant—James Gray, Esq.
Secretary—F. Clappison, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE—21, LOMBARD-STREET.

Manager—Whitbread Tomson, Esq.
Assistant Manager—William Howard, Esq.

At the HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the Proprietors, held on THURSDAY, the 1st of August, 1872, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street Station, the following Report for the Half-year ending the 30th June, 1872, was read by the Secretary. WILLIAM CHAMPION JONES, Esq., in the chair.

The Directors, in presenting to the Proprietors the balance-sheet of the bank for the half-year ending the 30th of June last, have the satisfaction to report that, after paying interest to customers, and all charges, allowing for rebate and making provision for bad and doubtful debts, the net profits amount to £103,086 8s. 7d. This sum, added to £7,548 3s. 3d., brought forward from the last account, produces a total of £110,634 11s. 10d. They have declared the usual dividend of 6 per cent., with a bonus of 4 per cent. for the half-year, free of income-tax, being at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, which will absorb £100,000, and leave £10,634 11s. 10d. to be carried forward to Profit and Loss New Account.

They have to announce the retirement of their esteemed colleague, PHILIP PATTON BLYTH, Esq., from the direction, and the election of JAMES DUNCAN TOMSON, Esq., in his stead.

A new Branch was opened at Hammersmith on the 6th February last, and the Directors have every reason to be satisfied with its progress.

The dividend and bonus, together £2 per share, free of income-tax, will be payable at the Head Office, or any of the Branches, on or after Monday, the 12th instant.

In consequence of the great extension of the business of the Company since the addition made to its capital in February, 1867, the Directors have decided to recommend to the Proprietors the issue of the 10,000 shares remaining of the 20,000 then authorised. These shares will be allotted rateably amongst the Proprietors whose names shall appear on the Share Register on the 22nd October next, at the price of £30 each, being a premium of £10 per share; and a resolution to that effect will be submitted at this Meeting.

BALANCE-SHEET of the LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, 30th June, 1872.

Dr.

To Capital paid up		£1,000,000	0 0
To Reserve Fund		500,000	0 0
To Amount due by the Bank for Customers' Balances, &c. ...	£16,874,446 14 4		
To Liabilities on Acceptances, covered by Securities	2,453,011 0 4		
		19,327,457	14 8
To Profit and Loss Balance brought from last Account ...	7,548 3 3		
To Gross Profit for the Half-year, after making provision for bad and Doubtful Debts, viz.	303,807 1 6		
		311,353	4 9
		£21,138,812	19 5

Cr.

By cash on hand at head office and Branches, and with Bank of England	2,342,490 17 11		
By Cash placed at Call and at Notice, covered by Securities ...	3,017,184 18 7		
		5,359,675	10 6
Investments, viz.:—			
By Government and Guaranteed Stock ...	1,503,119 10 0		
By other Stocks and Securities	114,373 13 10		
		1,617,493	3 10
By Discounted Bills and advances to Customers in Town and Country	11,274,270 4 0		
By Liabilities of Customers for Drafts accepted by the Bank, (as per Contra) ...	2,453,011 0 4		
		13,727,281	4 4
Freehold Premises in Lombard-street and Nicholas-lane, Freehold and Leasehold Property at the Branches, with Fixtures and Fittings		258,792	14 10
Interest paid to Customers		62,738	8 6
Salaries and all other expenses at Head Office and Branches, including Income Tax on Profits and Salaries		112,831	11 5
		£21,138,812	19 5

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.

To Interest paid to Customers as above ...	62,738	8 6
To Expenses, do.	112,831	11 5
To Rebate on Bills not due, carried to New Account	25,150	13 0
To Dividend of 6 per Cent. for Half-year...	60,000	0 0
To Bonus of 4 per Cent.	40,000	0 0
To Balance carried forward	10,634	11 10
	£311,355	4 9

Cr.

By Balance brought forward from last Account	7,549	3 3
By Gross Profit for the Half-year, after making provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts	303,807	1 6
	£311,355	4 9

We, the undersigned, have examined the foregoing Balance Sheet, and have found the same to be correct.

(Signed) WM. JARDINE, WILLIAM NORMAN, RICHARD H. SWAINE. } Auditors.

London and County Bank,
25th July, 1872.

The foregoing Report having been read by the Secretary, the following resolutions were proposed and unanimously adopted:—

1. That the Report be received and adopted, and printed for the use of the Shareholders.

2. That an issue of 10,000 shares in the capital of the Company be offered rateably amongst the Proprietors, who shall appear registered in the books of the Company on the 22nd October next, such shares to be issued at a premium of £10 per share, and on the following terms and conditions:

1. That payments be made as follow—
   £15 per share on the 5th December, 1872.
   £15 „ „ 5th June, 1873.
2. That £10 of each such payment shall be on account of capital, and the remaining £5 of each such payment shall be taken on account of the premium and added to the Reserve Fund.
3. That such payments, both on account of capital and of premium, shall bear interest after the rate of 5 per cent. per annum until the 30th June, 1873, from which date the payments on account of capital only shall be entitled to receive dividends after the same rate as the other capital stock of the Company.
4. That interest on the first payment shall cease so long as the second instalment shall remain unpaid.
5. That any payment of the second instalment made by anticipation shall not be entitled to interest until the date when that instalment becomes payable.
6. That on the 19th August, 1873, the Scrip Certificates (both payments thereon having been made) shall be brought in for registration, when the interest due will be paid, and a certificate for the relative number of shares be given in exchange in favour of the person whose name in full, quality and address, shall be endorsed upon them, on the same being lodged at the London and County Bank, 21, Lombard-street, and the Deed of Settlement of the Company being signed.

3. That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Board of Directors for the able manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the Company.

(Signed) W. CHAMPION JONES, Chairman.

The chairman having quitted the chair, it was resolved and carried unanimously—

4. That the cordial thanks of this Meeting be presented to WILLIAM CHAMPION JONES, Esq., for his able and courteous conduct in the Chair.

(Signed) W. NICOL, Deputy Chairman.

Extracted from the minutes.

(Signed) F. CLAPPSION, Secretary.

LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY.—Notice is Hereby Given, that a DIVIDEND on the Capital of the Company, at the rate of 6 per cent. for the half-year ending 30th June, 1872, with a Bonus of 4 per cent., will be PAID to the Proprietors, either at the HEAD OFFICE, 21, Lombard-street, or at any of the Company's Branch Banks, on and after Monday, the 12th instant. By order of the Board,

W. McKEWAN, General Manager.

21, Lombard-street, 2nd August, 1872.

Mutual Assurance without Mutual Liability.
Policies Payable in Lifetime.
Non-Forfeiture Policies by Limited Payments.
Settlement Policies.

BRITISH EQUITABLE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

CAPITAL:—A QUARTER OF A MILLION.
OFFICES:—4, QUEEN STREET PLACE, LONDON, E.C.

DIRECTORS.

George Thomas Dale, Esq., Bayswater.
William Sutton Gover, Esq., 4, Queen-street-place, City.
John Middleton Hare, Esq., Forest Hill.
Fountain John Hartley, Esq., Addle-street, City.
William George Lemon, Esq., Lincoln's Inn.
Henry Potter Olney, Esq., Fountain-court, Aldermanbury, City.
William Smith, Esq., Upper Norwood.
Edward Bean Underhill, Esq., LL.D., Hampstead.

MANAGING DIRECTOR AND ACTUARY.
William Sutton Gover, Esq., F.S.S., F.I.A.

SUB-MANAGER.
John Wilkinson Fairey, Esq.

REPORT.

The 17th year has been one of satisfactory progress and solid prosperity.

The new business of the year consisted of 1,934 policies, assuring £320,319, producing a new annual income of £9,820.

The mortality of the year comprised 172 deaths, on which the amount paid, together with bonuses, was £28,487 18s. 1d.

There were also 20 claims for matured policies, on which the amount paid, together with the bonuses, was £2,155 8s. 4d.

The amount paid in the year for the surrender of policies was £1,777.

The amount laid by in the year, £36,307.

The business in force is 17,009 policies, assuring £2,930,210, the annual premium income thereon being £93,998.

The amount paid for death claims and bonuses in seventeen years, under 1,173 policies, is £187,558.

The accumulated fund is now increased to £273,073.

On the foregoing statistics it may be observed that the amount and quality of the new assurances in a year of general depression in life assurance business are satisfactory, and that the low rate of mortality is an evidence of the cautious selection and high class of the lives assured.

That the amount laid by is greater than in any former year.

That few offices at the same age have had so large a business in force.

That the distribution of nearly £190,000 under the head of death claims and bonuses, has afforded a practical illustration of the benefits of life assurance in every part of the country.

The accumulated fund is ample in amount for the liabilities of the Company.

The securities of the Company have been carefully examined by the auditors.

It remains for the large body of Policyholders to introduce their friends and neighbours as insurers during the current year.

May, 1872.

FRAGRANT SOAP.

The celebrated "UNITED SERVICE" TABLET is famed for its delightful fragrance and beneficial effect on the skin.

Manufactured by
J. C. & J. FIELD, Patentees of the Self-fitting Candles.

Sold by Chemists, Oil and Italian Warehousemen, and others.

. Use no other. See name on each tablet.

"FIELD'S PATENT OZOKERIT CANDLES."

MR. COOKE BAINES, SURVEYOR and VALUER, PREPARES and NEGOTIATES COMPENSATION CLAIMS for Property Compulsorily taken for Railways and other Improvements, and also Values property for every purpose.—26, Finsbury-place, Moorgate-street, E.C.

The Great Western Hotel
(SNOW-HILL STATION), BIRMINGHAM.

"One of the most elegant, comfortable, and economical hotels in the three kingdoms."—The Field, July 31, 1869.

"From experience gained by repeated visits, we are happy to be able to testify to the exceeding comfort of this hotel. We have much pleasure in recommending it."—The Engineer, Oct. 14, 1870.

"An establishment remarkable for its able management, reasonable charges, and general comfort."—Bell's Life, June 17, 1871.

LONDON.—SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, 37, Queen's-square, Bloomsbury, W.C. Beds, from 1s. 6d. Plain Breakfast or Tea, 1s. 3d.

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EXTRACT FROM FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE, 1872.

The Directors have very great pleasure in commencing their Fourth Annual Report with the intimation that the business transacted by the Society during the year ending 30th June last has been of an eminently sound and profitable character, and that the progress and prosperity of the Society have not only equalled, but have surpassed the expectations which the Directors felt themselves justified in expressing in their last Report.

The total receipts of the year have amounted to £166,993 2s. 10d., as against £61,637 11s. 9d. in 1870-71, £22,832 5s. 5d. in 1869-70, and £8,099 3s. 8d. in 1868-9. The number of shares issued during the year has been 4,340, being in excess of the whole number issued during the three preceding years combined.

After paying the interest on deposits and the interest of 5 per cent. upon paid-up shares, and crediting all subscription shares not in arrear with interest at the like rate, there remains, after deducting all expenses, a balance of net profit amounting to £7,057 8s., out of which the Directors have placed the sum of £3,500 to the reserve fund of unappropriated profits, thus raising that fund to £6,000; have declared a Bonus of Two-and-a-Half per Cent. upon all paid-up shares in existence, and not under notice of withdrawal on the 30th of June; and have carried forward to the next account the sum of £1,574 19s. 3d.

The Directors feel justified in calling special attention to the fact that these highly-satisfactory results have been attained during a year when a variety of untoward circumstances connected with kindred institutions have been calculated to shake the public confidence in the operations of Building Societies. The Directors are convinced that the success and stability of "The Liberator" are mainly attributable to the policy which, with the cordial co-operation of the members, they have adopted from the establishment of the Society, of working for security, rather than for extravagant, and too often illusory, profits; it is in pursuance of this policy that the Directors have thought it desirable, after mature consideration, not to declare a larger bonus than above stated on this occasion, believing that the permanent interests of the Society will be best promoted, and the future profits of the present members largely increased, by a moderate distribution of bonus, and a consequent proportionate increase of the reserve fund.

The Directors are also able to congratulate the members upon the excellent character of the securities accepted by the Society (being principally freehold), a result largely attributable to the successful efforts of the numerous and energetic Members' Agents in all parts of the country.

TABLE SHOWING THE ANNUAL PROGRESS OF THE SOCIETY.

For the year ending	Number of Shares issued during the year.	Total Receipts.	Amount of Premiums on Advances.	Amount carried to Reserve Fund.	Bonus paid in addition to fixed Interest at Five per Cent.
June 30, 1869	801	£8,099 3 8	£964 14 2	£150 0 0	One per Cent.
June 30, 1870	1,267	£22,832 5 5	£1,969 0 0	£500 0 0	Two per Cent.
June 30, 1871	2,218	£61,637 11 9	£4,904 1 0	£1,850 0 0	Two and a Half per Cent.
June 30, 1872	4,340	£166,993 2 10	£8,969 11 7	£3,500 0 0	Two and a Half per Cent.

Shares, £30 each, may be paid up at once, or by subscriptions of not less than 4s. per month.
Subscription Shares are credited half-yearly with Five per Cent. per annum on amount invested.
Five per Cent. per annum paid in cash, half-yearly, on fully-paid-up shares, with yearly bonus out of additional profits.
Deposits received at any time, at fixed rates. Interest paid half-yearly.
Undoubted security, as the Society only lends on approved mortgages.
Prospectuses, Forms of Application, and all particulars, free by post on application, at the Offices,

48, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON BRIDGE, E.C.

(CLOSE TO THE MONUMENT.)

J. SPENCER BALFOUR, Managing Director.

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